PALESTINE POLICE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

EDITOR
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NEWS LETTER

No. 136 PUBLISHED QUARTERLY SEPTEMBER 1984

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PALESTINE POLICE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

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Telephone: 01-349 9121 ext. 501 (Office)
01-954 6904 (Home)

Treasurer: S. P. Johnson
19 The Crest, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 5NJ
Tel: 0702 521805

SPECIAL NOTE

To all Branch Secretaries and other contributors:
Material for the December 1984 issue of the News Letter should be in the hands of the Editor by 5th October, 1984.

NOTICE

The editor would like it to be known that the delay in producing the last issue of the newsletter was something which cannot be laid at his door. Although at time of going to press, we do not know the reason given by the printers who may have their own troubles in this world. Everything ran to time as far as actual material was concerned. Just the same the inconvenience and indeed anxiety caused is regretted.

EDITOR

NOTICE

A Mr. D. J. (David) Sparks of Lake Cottage, Bishopswood, Nr. Chard, Somerset TA20 3RS is interested in the purchase of Palestine Police regalia including cap badges, shoulder titles, collar badges, buttons etc. and indeed any insignia as worn from time to time by members of the force, in whatever branch and at whatever rank. Any member wishing to sell such items at whatever figure is agreed upon should contact Mr. Sparks direct.

EDITOR

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HILLARY PRESS LIMITED

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Message from our

CHAIRMAN

In June of this year I once more stood among the graves of our fellows in Jerusalem, Ramleh and at Haifa and as I stood there I realised that so many of those who fell were of my own vintage 1945-1948, and some of them only 1946-1948. (From 1946 to the Stand Down we lost 130 men). Some of the casualties had only been in Palestine for a few months and to this generation of P.P., I launch this appeal. Up to now, this association has been nurtured from its inception by the efforts and support of many of our older comrades but the all too many obituary notices recently reveal dreadful gaps in the ranks. I would like to see them FILLED particularly at the cenotaph parade. So that from North, East, South and West I ask you to make a special effort to meet at 10.00 a.m. on Sunday 7th October at Whitehall Place. Please do not make excuses because if you really try, you CAN be there and to hold your head high and march with us for a short service at the cenotaph to remember those of our number we left behind in Palestine.

Naturally this invitation includes all our members no matter what rank or vintage in Palestine, although of course, illness, disability and age must mean that many cannot attend. I also realise the cost of things today, but I am sure you will not regret it and it will continue with a tradition that has been carried out these past 36 years. Those who joined the force after 1946 actually outnumber everyone else, but at the moment many have not come forward in sufficient numbers to help run the association and swell our attendance at the cenotaph. So please remember those who fell in Palestine and assist us to pay them the homage that is their due.

TERRY SHAND

Picture on front cover. Keeping traffic tidy
L to R - B/Consts Smith and Naunton
Photograph from Jim Haines

PALESTINE POLICE OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
for the year ended 31st January 1984

EXPENDITURE

1983		
4220	News Letter	5406.00
328	Printing and Stationery	189.45
1282	Postage	1432.14
100	Telephone	129.00
386	Travelling Expenses	368.30
70	Accountants and Auditors Charges	80.00
662	General Expenses	595.08
25	Donations	50.00
72	Bank Charges	84.51
—	Loss on Annual Dinner	170.97
20	Depreciation—Office Equipment	30.00
£7165		£8535.45
130	Corporation Tax	9.00
1359	Balance brought down	2685.11
9881	Balance carried to Balance Sheet	7186.92
£11370		£9881.03

INCOME

4525	Subscriptions and Donations	5145.82
119	Profit on Annual Dinner	—
912	Building Society Interest	444.52
250	News Letter Advertising	260.00
1359	Deficiency carried down	2685.11
£7165		£8535.45
760	Corporation Tax Reserve not required	—
10610	Balance brought forward	9881.03
£11370		£9881.03

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st JANUARY 1984

LIABILITIES

9881	Accumulated Fund	7186.02
	Creditors:-	
264	Expenses	218.18
203	Subscriptions in Advance	475.00
636	Memorial Plaques Fund	635.80
130	Provision for Corporation Tax	30.78
£11114		£8546.68

ASSETS

10	Sport Trophies and Medals	112.40	
	Depreciation to date	102.40	
			10.00
110	Office Equipment	309.52	
	Depreciation to date	229.52	
			80.00
	Debtors:-		
5031	Benevolent Association	254.39	
—	Loan—East Midland Branch	75.00	
			329.39
100	Payments in Advance		100.00
3978	Abbey National Building Society		5516.23
1512	Britannia Building Society		2124.50
276	Cash at Bank		297.74
97	Cash in Hand		88.82
£11114			£8546.68

AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS

I have examined the Accounts and Balance Sheet with the books and vouchers and having received all the information and explanations I have required, report that the said Accounts and Balance Sheet are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of affairs at 31st January 1984 according to the best of the information and explanations given to me and as shown by the books.

66 Abbots Gardens
East Finchley
London N2 0JH

G. H. BYFIELD
Certified Accountant
27th February, 1984

PALESTINE POLICE OLD COMRADES BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31st January, 1984

EXPENDITURE

1983		
	Trading:-	
1689	Stock	1388.75
1134	Purchases	2930.89
9866	"A Job Well Done"—Production Costs	—
—	Stock	6573.36
484	Postage	248.52
595	Grants and Donations	982.15
87	Printing and Stationery	68.51
50	Accountants and Auditors Charges	60.00
89	Postage and Telephone	148.03
284	Travelling Expenses	456.52
17	General Expenses	—
115	Depreciation—Office Equipment	150.00
5074	Surplus carried to Balance Sheet	3201.23
£19484		£16207.96

INCOME

	Trading:-	
1599	Sales	1952.74
1389	Stock	2216.52
6238	"A Job Well Done"—Sales	2382.92
6573	Stock	5417.12
1627	Donations	2567.05
200	Legacy	—
124	Interest—Bank	33.94
1187	Post Office Investment Account	1097.90
543	Profit on Sweepstakes	522.57
4	Tax Refund	17.20
£19484		£16207.96

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st JANUARY, 1984

LIABILITIES

	Accumulated Fund:-		
15837	Balance at 1st February, 1983		15836.84
	Add—Surplus in Year		3201.23
			£19038.07
	Creditors:-		
5031	General Fund		254.39
53	Expenses		62.79
£20921			£19355.25

ASSETS

1600	Office Equipment (at cost)	1714.65	
	Depreciation to date	264.65	
			1450.00
7962	Trading Stocks		7633.64
68	Payments in Advance		79.10
10985	Post Office Investment Account		9489.00
232	Cash at Bank—Deposit Account		—
74	Current Account		679.61
—	Cash in Hand		23.90
£20921			£19355.25

AUDITORS REPORT TO MEMBERS

I have examined the Accounts and Balance Sheet with the books and vouchers and having received all the information and explanations I have required, report that the said Accounts and Balance Sheet are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of affairs at 31st January, 1984 according to the best of the information and explanations given to me and as shown by the books.

66 Abbots Gardens
East Finchley
London N2 0JH

G. H. BYFIELD
Certified Accountant
27th February, 1984

DERBY SWEEPSTAKE — 1984

Statement of income and expenditure, together with allocation to branches of the proceeds from sale of tickets.

BRANCH	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SALES	AMOUNT
S. E. Counties	21.42	593.40
S. W. Hills Esq. for Benevolent Association	20.43	566.00
South Midland	10.14	281.00
Yorkshire	9.28	257.00
London	9.17	254.00
Merseyside & District	7.54	209.00
S. & W. Counties	7.54	209.00
Scottish	7.15	198.00
East Midlands	2.92	81.00
Hertfordshire	2.38	66.00
Midland	2.03	56.00
		£2770.40

EXPENSES		
Printing of tickets	66.00	
Postage	21.54	
Lottery Registration Fee	10.00	
	97.54	
PRIZES		
First	200.00	
Second	100.00	
Third	50.00	
Unplaced horses (14 @ £10)	140.00	
Scratched horses (25 @ £5)	125.00	
Near misses (18 @ £2)	36.00	
	651.00	
		748.54
NETT PROFIT		£2021.86

ALLOCATION OF PROFIT	
General Fund	640.62
S. E. Counties	295.86
Benevolent Association	282.19
South Midland	140.06
Yorkshire	128.18
London	126.66
Merseyside & District	104.15
S. & W. Counties	104.15
Scottish	98.76

ALLOCATION OF PROFIT (Continued)

East Midlands	40.33
Hertfordshire	32.87
Midland	28.03
	£2021.86

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Palestine Police Old Comrades Association will take place at The Cardinal, Francis Street, London, S.W.1., on Saturday 6th October, 1984, commencing at 3.15 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Formal opening by the Association Chairman.
2. Minutes of the previous A.G.M., held 1st October, 1983 as circulated in Newsletter 133 (December 1983) and matters arising therefrom.
3. Report of the General Secretary.
4. Report of the Secretary of the Benevolent Association.
5. Presentation and adoption of the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ending 31st January, 1984 and the Auditor's Reports.
6. Election of officers for the year 1984/85. Viz: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and nine other members of Central Council. Nominations may be made in advance by letter to the General Secretary or on the floor of the meeting immediately before the election. (N.B. The officers and committee of the Benevolent Association are appointed by the Central Council).
7. Election of Auditor for the O.C.A. and for the O.C. Benevolent Association.
8. Reports from branches (not necessarily to be printed in the newsletter).

NOTE

The following members of the retiring Central Council have expressed their willingness to stand for re-election if normally nominated and seconded: W. Anderson, G. Andrews, D. Cartwrite, M.B.E., C.P.M., T. Freeburn, S. W. Hills, K.P.M., B.E.M., P. E. Hornby, L. Seaton, L. Sexton, T. J. Shand, G. Stewart and T. R. Walker. Messrs. E. P. Horne, B.E.M., and S. P. Johnson are ex-officio members of the council by reason of past office. The first meeting of the newly elected Central Council will be on Wednesday, 17th October, 1984 at 7.00 p.m., at The Cardinal.

ANNUAL REUNION DINNER

The Annual Reunion Dinner will be held at the Westminster Cathedral Conference Centre which is next to and just to the right of the Westminster Roman Catholic Cathedral on Saturday, 6th October, 1984.

DRESS INFORMAL (Except for THE TIE)

ASSEMBLE 6.30 p.m. DINNER 7.00 p.m.

NOTE—Car parking in the immediate vicinity is reasonable in the roads at the near of the cathedral. The nearest underground station is Victoria. The conference centre is approached by a ramp leading downwards which is suitable for the disabled. Please book (and pay) for your tickets well IN ADVANCE from the General Secretary.

The Annual Dinner is still a 'stag affair' but ladies will be admitted to the dining room after the singing of The Holy City which marks the conclusion of the formal proceedings—usually at about 9.00 p.m., thereafter the gathering becomes an informal get-together. Tickets should be obtained from the General Secretary and must be obtained in advance. The minimum charge for a ticket is £10.00, although some members pay a bit more, the remainder being used as a donation to funds. Those wishing to attend should obtain their tickets as soon as possible, thereby enabling the organisers to make a better job of what can be a difficult and aggravating task. This is better than waiting for about three days beforehand, particularly as final catering arrangements have to be made by 29th September so that anyone attending who has not paid in advance will very likely have to take pot luck. Any member applying for more than one ticket must name the number(s) for whom extra ticket(s) is/are required.

Ladies arriving before the end of the dinner or during the speeches are earnestly requested to keep all noise to a minimum, so as to assist the speakers. One of the small rooms off the main hall should be kept available as a waiting area. It is regretted that at this venue, no arrangements can be made for refreshments and the bar will remain closed during the speeches. We have now had a number of successful functions at the Conference Centre and look forward to an equally enjoyable time this year.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL PARADE AND SERVICE
THE CENOTAPH, WHITEHALL
Sunday, 7th October, 1984

(Parade Marshall: S. P. Johnson Esq.)

10.30 a.m. Assemble in Horse Guards Avenue, Whitehall. S.W.1.

10.40 a.m. Fall in.

10.45 a.m. Inspection by Sir Richard Catling, C.M.G., O.B.E., K.P.M. and Ian Proud Esq., C.B.E.

10.55 a.m. Parade headed by the Metropolitan Police Band (by kind permission of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis) will march to the Cenotaph, Whitehall.
Parade Commander: E. H. Wells Esq.
Section Officer: Messrs. G. A. Hunt, F. A. Pays and L. Adamson.
Wreath bearers: Messrs. A. Anderson and G. Coaten (East Midlands Branch)

11.00 a.m. The Association Wreath will be laid at the foot of the Cenotaph by Brigadier J. M. Rymer Jones, C.B.E M.C., C.St.J., Q.P.M., followed by one minute's silence.

11.02 a.m. The Last Post will be sounded.

11.03 a.m. The Memorial Service for deceased Old Comrades particularly those buried in Palestine will be conducted by the Reverend L. Beeby.

11.15 a.m. The parade will march into King Charles Street for the "Dismiss".

ORDER OF PARADE FOR NON MARCHERS

(viz: Disabled, Associate Members etc.)
(Parade Marshall: T. Freeburn Esq.)

10.30 a.m. Assemble in King Charles Street, Whitehall, S.W.1.

10.35 a.m. Fall in.

10.37 a.m. Inspection by Brigadier J. M. Rymer Jones, C.B.E., M.C., C.St.J., Q.P.M.

10.45 a.m. Dismiss.

10.55 a.m. Fall in on the south side of the Cenotaph and Stand Easy.
The Marshall to call "To Attention" when the main parade arrives at the Cenotaph.

11.15 a.m. Dismiss after the main parade has cleared the Cenotaph.

DECORATIONS AND MEDALS (or miniatures) WILL BE WORN.

After the parade and service there will be an informal gathering at The Cardinal, Francis Street, Victoria, S.W.1., from 11.30 a.m. The Cardinal is only about 10 minutes walking distance.

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

Westminster Abbey, S.W.1.

THURSDAY, 8th NOVEMBER, 1984

Once more this association is proud to be represented at the national Field of Remembrance outside Westminster Abbey at our own plot, No. 301 which can easily be identified by the association badge mounted upon a cross. All members of the association and their ladies and families who feel able to attend are invited to assemble at 11.45 a.m. on Thursday, 8th November, 1984, near the north door of the Abbey for a short service at 12 noon which will mark the opening of the Field of Remembrance to the public. Those who desire to do so will have the opportunity to purchase small Remembrance Crosses at the door of the Abbey and then to plant them in the P.P.O.C.A. plot individually.

For those members of the association who cannot visit the Field of Remembrance in person but would like to participate in Remembrance Week can call upon some members of Central Council and members of London Branch who will see that crosses are planted on their behalf. Orders accompanied by the appropriate remittance and the name, or other inscription, to be written on the cross, may be sent to S. W. (Micky) Hills Esq., K.P.M., B.E.M., Flat 57, Kemp House, Berwick Street, London W1V 3PN in good time for him to execute the order.

Crosses are available at the prices shown hereunder, whether planted in person or by proxy:-

Badge Cross, being the P.P.O.C.A. crest on a field of poppies	£2.50
Field Cross, tastefully decorated with poppies and other flowers	£1.90
Poppy Cross, with poppies only	£1.60
Leaf Cross, bearing poppy with laurel ...	80p
Remembrance Cross, small and plain ...	80p

Orders in good time please.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY FACTORY LTD.

Since its inception in 1922 the Poppy Factory has provided employment under sheltered workshop conditions for ex-service men and women, their widows and dependants, preference being given to the disabled.

More than 80% of the workforce are disabled in one way or another, and the principal work of the factory is the manufacture of poppies and wreaths for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Fund.

It may not be known however, that we also purchase a range of rosettes and badges for sporting and social events, together with sashes and ribons.

All these items are individually worded as required.

Full details of specifications and prices can be obtained from:-

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20 PETERSHAM ROAD
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Telephone: 01-940 3305

HOME NOTES

Lots of our members continue to wander about the world. Fewer actually do so for work as these days the vast majority are on holiday. Naturally we are always glad to have a postcard, so that after the initial rush to the airport, a plastic meal at 35,000 feet followed by a hair raising taxi journey to the hotel of their choice, we are glad to have a few words that the party concerned has survived the expected tummy trouble or whatever problems beset the modern traveller. It is nice to know for instance that the liner Canberra is still afloat at time of posting or that Sri Lanka has not moved an inch from its allotted place on the atlas or that the Great Barrier Reef has not yet been eroded by starfish or even that such an arid spot as Aden, now under 'leftish' rule still has a sizeable black market operating in the crater area. Such news is reassuring and brings a degree of stability to memories we already cherish of a time when a younger age of PP actually appeared to run a once great Empire with effortless ease. News from more recent travellers include Micky Hills (Spain and Andorra), Tom Urwin (since deceased) (Germany), Tom Harbison (Canada), Mrs. Helen Haines (Israel), John and Dorothy Foster (Cyprus) and Len

1st NOTICE

ANNUAL REUNION DINNER

SATURDAY, 6th OCTOBER, 1984

THE WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

CONFERENCE CENTRE

Victoria Street, S.W.1

(Entrance down slope to right of Cathedral)

6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m.

Minimum charge £10.00

and ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at

"The Cardinal", Francis Street, S.W.1

3.15 p.m. in the afternoon

(nearest underground: Victoria)

(Tickets for the dinner only from General Secretary BEFORE 29th September)

ANNUAL CENOTAPH PARADE

SUNDAY, 7th OCTOBER, 1984

SPECIAL EFFORT PLEASE ! ! !

Horse Guards Avenue, 10.00 a.m. for 10.30 a.m.

(nearest underground: Westminster, Embankment or Trafalgar Square)

Fall in 10.40 a.m. March: 10.55 a.m.

Service 11.00 a.m.

Followed by a gathering at the Cardinal (Headquarters)

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS UNIQUE AND MOVING OCCASION

NON-MARCHERS assemble King Charles St., at 10.30 a.m.

and Mary Sexton (U.S.A.). We thank them all but should now start to digest their news in greater detail.

First Micky Hills who has returned safely to the Costa del Soho from the Costa del Topless or some such place more easily identified as Barcelona and district. Where he was entertained by Nigel (Fruity) Ward and his wife Mercedes. Actually the Wards live at a place called Blanes which is outside the city and Micky reports that the two looked very well. Quite a lot of old comrades will remember Nigel of course, particularly former Nabulsi, Tulkarmi and Jail Labour Camp(i) types. He rowed quite a bit at one time and that may ring another bell for some. Anyway he is in good health and we are glad to hear of it. Our plenipotentiary for Soho North then travelled to Andorra, a country not much larger than London's West End and there he stayed with Harold Percival and his wife Irene and where he enjoyed their delightful home amid 'scenic wonder' which is the way Micky describes it. Harold who is now 77 is enjoying reasonably good health and was kind enough to say that he regards the newsletter as a lifeline to sanity — or some such phrase, for which we thank him. It is good to know that both these old comrades are in contact and we look forward to hearing from them from time to time. Top Urwin sent a card showing a village nestling between mountains and his written comment was "This place is even better than it looks". The suddeness of his death shortly afterwards has left us all stunned and is commented upon elsewhere. Mrs. Helen Haines whose card came from Jerusalem and which contained a 'Happy Easter Greeting' which indicates how long ago it was that we received it. She was able to spend some of Easter in St. St. George's Cathedral and what better place? The cathedral was full for the service and she kindly placed a candle near to the Palestine Police Memorial Plaque. A very nice thought and we are grateful to her for that little action. She spent much of her childhood in Jerusalem and hope she found much to remind her of those times.

Tom Harbison deserved his three weeks holiday in Canada and his card showed a picture of Toronto — a pretty sizeable place by any standards. He met John Bolton and Noel and Rita Davies, while his own daughter, Margaret who lives in Washington DC, was able to get time off to go north and see her father. Noel was able to organise one of his Hufli's and at time of writing it was hoped that Alan and Nancy Guest, Fred and Jean Plunkett, Ed and Marion Doty and Bill and Myra Evans would be able to attend. Finally Tom was able to chat with Angus Barclay on the telephone. While on the opposite side of the Atlantic, Len and Mary Sexton visited Las Vegas, Nevada at some stage while visiting their daughter, Barbara who really lives in California. While in the casino city, they were able to visit Margaret Whistom from whom we hear all too little and who is now settled in Las Vegas. So keen were the Sextons to get all this into the newsletter that they actually

engaged the services of Mrs. Bella Todman to write from London and reserve the space. The Sexton letter arrived a few days later.

Through these pages, Doug Robertson, temporarily billeted at:- 23 Leafy Way, Hatton, Brentwood, Essex but who really lives in Australia, has written on behalf of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Freda Wallace, widow of the late Jim (Edgar) Wallace and we quote "Freda Wallace and Doug and Gloria Robertson would like to thank the P.P.O.C.A. for their support following the death of 'Edgar' Wallace. His service with the Palestine Police was the high point of Edgar's life and your loyalty and comradeship so many years on, bears out the high praise which he always had for force. Thank you." Altogether a nice letter. I think it can be foretold that Edgar's name will crop up many times through the forthcoming years whenever old comrades foregather. Doug is soon to return to Australia after his course in the U.K. and we hope that he and his wife Gloria, who is Edgar's daughter will have many years ahead of them.

The Derby Sweepstake went off like clockwork and as usual the debt we all owe to Sidney Johnson who runs it, is pretty considerable. Winners this year are:- First prize of £200 went to P. R. (Buck) Adams (Norfolk) who drew the horse Secreto. For such a fine horseman of former times, it is hard to think of anyone more deserving. Second prize of £100 went to someone mysteriously named 'OCA London' and doubtless that pseudonym has been sorted out to the satisfaction of the person concerned. His horse being El Gran Senor. The third and last prize of £50 on a horse called Mighty Flutter went to a Mr. Robin Anderson of London. 14 people won £10 apiece for drawing unplaced horses. 25 won £5 for scratched horses and a further 18 persons received £2 for 'near misses'. The total sum of £2770.50 raised was a first class effort.

Those who write to friends in Lebanon from time to time will have come to realise that Beirut Airport has been closed since 5th February last and no mail can be accepted for addresses in Lebanon or so the Post Office advise. Moreover as there is no surface mail facility with that country, it is virtually incommuncado from the rest of the world. Even as we go to press some efforts are being made to restore airmail services but so far without success. We have no news of former Palestinian members of the force who moved to Lebanon after the Stand Down. Some are known to our records and in particular we are concerned for the safety and welfare of Mrs. Sa'ad, widow of the lately lamented Shawki Bey Sa'ad.

Naturally we have a long list of 'Heard From' people and these include letters from:- Bob LeMerechal—37 Hall Lane, Hendon, London NW4 4TJ, George Gray—8 Severn Crescent, Cavendish Park, Didcot, Oxfordshire. Harry Hartley—67 Fountain Drive, Robert Town, Liversedge, West Yorkshire WF15 7PY. Aubrey Nye—Batchworth Cottage, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire. Joe Foley—5 The Camerons, Rannoch Drive, Mansfield, Nottingham-

shire NG19 6RX. Mrs. Peggy Wilmshurst—P.O. Box 476, Deniliquin, New South Wales 2710, Australia. Bill Ridgard—85 Bridle Road, Burton Joyce, Nottinghamshire NG15 5FS and Terence Gould—3 Calderwood Court, Montpelier Parade, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1UA. Of this lot, we owe Bob Le Marechal a letter and hope that one day we shall get round to actually answering his. Aubrey Nye seeks the whereabouts of P. R. (Peter) Jelacsics and here we can inform him that Peter lives at 75 Harcourt Road, Folkestone, Kent. While friends will be pleased to know that Mrs. Peggy Wilmshurst is in good health and is in touch with Margaret Robinson, daughter of the late Jock Duffy, also of Deniliquin. As a matter of fact Margaret's husband is her doctor, so she is in safe hands. Terence Gould sent us a Zerox copied photograph of a Palestine Policeman shielding a little Arab girl from sniper fire in Jerusalem and taken from the Daily Mail of 11th February, 1948. We gather that the picture is that of B/Const. 3133 Gould, himself, and a nice picture for the album it is. Unfortunately we are unable to produce it here.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to study The Overseas Pensioner once more. This is the journal of The Overseas Service Pensioners Association which arrived with lots of useful information that must affect a lot of our members. It was from its pages that we first learned of the death of A. J. Docherty that was reported by Arthur Wiltshire in the last issue. The editor has agreed to carry the Calender of Events of this association in his journal and in turn we carry a half page advertisement for his organisation. Altogether a useful arrangement for both parties. Every now and then, we get bogged down in the subject of P.P. menu cards from the days of old and we are about to venture into another interesting journey of this kind. A letter from Cabby Walter reveals that a Menu for Christmas Dinner at Carmelite Billet, Haifa for 1947 was discovered among the papers of the late B/Const. 362 Richard C. D. Higgs whose death was reported in issue No. 73 in Bahrein. The find was made by his widow who passed it on to John Pullman who in turn sent it on its way to this editor through Cabby Walter. Examination reveals a mass of comradely signatures, some clearly penned while others after Eagle or Gold Star perhaps, were totally incomprehensible. But of those that can be decyphered we note the following: P. Gill, R. A. English, R. Jones, W. Donaldson, G. Rees? (G. T. or L.) enster (ex Eastern), Cowley, Barrett, A. Potter?, John W. Campbell, W. Warren, B/C1610, ? Harrison ex/Stn. Sgt. E.P.S., B/C Horton? and some eight others totally beyond the ability of calligraphic skill to decypher. But as for the menu itself it is certainly interesting with a choice of turkey and trimmings or pork and trimmings, as one might expect in the Holiest of Holy Lands. The Roast Gravy raises a cullinary eyebrow but it was a fine effort and sad to think it was all to be the last Christmas in the history of the force. Friends might care to know that Mrs. Higgs lives at 76 Salisbury Avenue, Broadstairs, Kent.

J. C. (Ras) Thompson, 42 Parade Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 4HB does a lot for this association and has enough energy to represent a branch of his own in Ipswich. He goes to funerals, keeps in touch with local matters of interest to P.P., keeps an eye upon the lame and sick in his area, visits hospitals and calls upon P.P. in the 'outback' and we value this service very much. Apart from a fulsome obituary notice for the late George Tatum in Kings Lynn, which is not all that convenient for Ipswich people to visit, he has been in contact with F. R. (Tank) Matthews of 39 Lynn road, Heacham, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE31 7JF and R. A. (Dick) Sizeland's name also came up in correspondence, he lives at 51/52 High Street, Tittleshall, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE32 2PJ. We hope Ras's one-man branch efforts continue and act as an encouragement for others in this respect. On the other side of England, a letter from Gerald Green, Margerstan House, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3PG reports that he had a long chat with former B/Sergeant J. R. Mattinson, a former PTI at Jenin who joined the Parachute Regiment after leaving Palestine to retire later as R.S.M. He lives at 82 Mellanby Crescent, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham. Not to be outdone with this, Gerald developed his chat technique further and met W. (Paddy) Moreland of Grenville, Clapworthy Mill, South Molton, North Devon who at one time served in Haifa CID. Paddy really comes from Belfast and served for many years in the Metropolitan Police before settling in North Devon. We hope the peace and quiet it not too much after the noise and dust of London and would like to hear from him and even see more of him in the future. Meanwhile may Gerald continue with his chats and bring us more news of old comrades in remote places.

A. W. (Bob) Rowberry of 28 Britannia Square, Worcester WR1 3DH not only writes a good yarn for this newsletter but can cause a stir in Worcestershire circles too. He writes to say that earlier in the summer he attended a cocktail party for the Army Benevolent Fund at which the Lord Lieutenant and his wife were the hosts. Apparently Mrs. "Lord Lieutenant" takes a great interest in regimental ties and was unable to place Bob's tie, which naturally was THE TIE OF ALL TIES. So he bet her £5 that she would not be able to guess which tie it was before the end of the proceedings. At the end of the evening he had to tell her that it was — The Palestine Police — and he then donated the £5 to the Army Benevolent Fund. He has met her once or twice since that date and she always calls him "My Palestine Policeman". A nice story with a nice ending. It occures to us, that this particular Lord Lieutenant might be good for a branch P.P. function one of these days. After all Faringdon can't be far from wherever they live. Just a thought. "Derrick Tricker's back" or so some headline or other, ought to read. Major D. S. Tricker who has wandered about these last few years and whose last address was in the Sultanate of Oman where he ran prisons. Is now settled at 2 The Carriage House, Lees Court,

Sheldwick Lees, Nr. Faversham, Kent ME13 0NQ. We gather he is on retirement since we cannot think of a prison at, or near Sheldwick Lees. Another former P.P. thus comes home and we hope and trust we shall see something of him in due course.

We all get shocks from time to time and it would appear that even if one lives in Mauritius, one cannot escape from moments of this kind. Certainly not Harry Hargreaves, Pereybere, Grand Bay, Mauritius who writes. "I have just had the most fantastic experience which must be unique, hence my effort to put it on record. On 22nd March, 1984 I was sitting on my terrace overlooking the beautiful blue sea, when someone knocked upon my door. When I answered it I was met by a huge man who addressed me in English and asked "Do you remember me?". His face seemed familiar. He seemed obviously Jewish but I could not put a name to him. He then said "You will remember my father — Papa Haas." Then the penny dropped. It was Zvi Haas who was one of the detainees I brought to this island and as Assistant Commandant of the Detention Camp I kept till he was allowed to leave on joining the army in 1943. He was then 23 years of age and before leaving Mauritius he married a girl detainee aged 17. He is now settled in Jerusalem and has been on holiday to South Africa when he and his wife decided to look me up and also to get a copy of their marriage certificate. When I asked why he had gone to all the trouble to see me, he replied "Sir we all loved you, you understood us and helped us." I think I must be the only Detention Camp Commandant to be so respected. For the old Palestine Police I am very moved, proud and honoured." Well that is quite a story and would make the subject of a good press or TV article.

Fred Gardiner of 14 Brampton Avenue, Hall Green, Birmingham, West Midlands B28 9LG was kind enough to write and tell us something of a recent visit to Bermuda. Recent meaning 1983 by the way. He was entertained by Frank Farmer and his wife who live at P.O. Box 9, Paget 6, Bermuda. It is hoped that the Farmers will be in the U.K. and at time of writing they have the intention of making the Reunion Dinner and the Cenotaph Parade. This is something for the rest of us to look forward to. Fred has also been in touch with A. J. Palmer, a former squad mate of his in olden times and now living in 2 Highworth Crescent, Stanshaw Estate, Yate, near Bristol. He also hears from time to time from the widows of the late Geordie Strong, Nebi Samuel and Michael Cooke and it is nice to know that these ladies are still in touch with somebody and who better than the Chairman of the Midland Branch to which their husbands all devoted so much time and energy. Fred and his wife Anne also correspond with Reg Warwick, 17 Coulls Road, Banksia Park, South Australia 5091 and may find that they can visit them sometime in the forthcoming winter. It was good to see Ernie DeVal at the recent Isle of Wight 'Huffli' which is reported elsewhere. Ernie tells us that he had a visit from Bill

McClean and his wife Joan who were visiting the decadent south from their home in Edinburgh. Ernie and Bill served together in Malaya. They had the chance to talk of Palestine as well as Malaya of course and such names as Sam Peat, Jock Urquhart and Jock Greenhowe came up. Stacey Barham got a mention too as did former Nursing Sister Mary Renwick who is now a widowed lady.

Les Stelfox, 85 Regis Crescent, Milton Regis, Kent is another from a big group of Kentish Men and Men of Kent who write to us with never ceasing vigour. Les was a former Port and Marine chap, when in Palestine (we have the impression that the P & M mariners are everywhere). In an interesting letter he recalls the time when he was a crew member of the Sealion in which Ian Rankin was in charge and they were stationed at Jaffa and the various adventures that beset the vessel and her crew. He asks. "Does any member of the association remember what happened to the Sealion as the war unfolded?" If so, please write and tell Les and for that matter tell us too because we sense a story. But leaving Kent again and returning to Suffolk once more, we should report that a nice letter from Mrs. Ivy Blount, 28 Highfield Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk was most welcome and old friends will be pleased to know that she has settled down in Felixstowe nicely and she helps to run an old peoples club and W.V.S. activities and probably does not get much spare time. Moreover her sister lives near to her which is important. Was there anyone in Jerusalem at one time who did not know the Blounts? Its nice to feel she is happy.

W. G. (Bill) McVee, 54 Roman Road, Darwen, Lancashire BB3 3BN wrote as long ago as 12th April and was pleased to see his photograph on page 19 of the March 1984 issue. He was able to correct the spelling of the name that was given us from McVeigh as shown to McVee, and points out that the number should have read 4348. He then goes on to say that Ben Butler shown on the left of the photograph is someone he lost touch with many years ago but would like to hear from him again. While Bob Burns, shown in the centre, not only served in the British Army and was also involved in the Spanish Civil War too. As a matter of further interest the motor car shown behind the three, was the vehicle in which Paddy Poland was shot. Bill was driving from Mount Scopus to the Old City with George Brophy as escort and Sergeant Poland in the back seat and near Sheikh Jarrar an automatic weapon opened fire on the party. Paddy was driven at once to the Hadassah Hospital and later transferred to another hospital in Egypt. Bill is the brother in law of Harry Wheeler who is also mentioned in passing, somewhere in this newsletter. Sydney Bamber of Oakdene, Melville Estate, Devonshire, Bermuda wrote to our Treasurer and his last paragraph is of interest. "Could N. Swain, be the one I drove to Nathanya (C.I.D. Jaffa) along with George Dack (Sgt.), Seaton-Brown & Co. in an early morning arrest of the Irgun Pay-

master?" "Well could he?". Jimmy Thomson of 18 Eskvale Ave., Corby, Northamptonshire NN17 1ET was on holiday in Aberdeen recently and took the opportunity of looking up Bob Low, probably best remembered for his service in Jenin. Anyway the two had a good afternoon together and many old Jeninites were mentioned. Then afterwards Jimmy had a letter from Bernard Smith another former Jenini, these were the two who were mentioned on holiday in Beirut that was the subject of an article in issue No. 130.

The county of Kent turns itself into an epi-centre of quiet and unobtrusive P.P. activity from time to time and this editor probably gets as many letters from that quarter as any other three countries put together. Nothing over exciing of course, just routine reports from members that they have cleaned their motor car, or changed their brand of toothpast—that sort of thing. All of which is nice to know but it takes a bit of sifting when trying to seek newsletter material. But we could not ignore a letter from Bernard Smith, 35 The Drive, Gravesend, Kent DA12 4BY when he included a photograph taken by his daughter many years ago when the late Ken Booth called upon them. There are no heads whatever shown in the picture nor any legs below the knee but instead two stomachs with P.P. ties well in evidence. As to who was who, it is difficult to say, but we made our choice and regret it is not possible or even sensible to produce the photograph in these pages. The main thing about Bernard's letter is news that his son is now Rector of Eythorne with Waldershare since last April. "Where are these places?" One can hear readers ask. "Just seven miles from Dover" Comes the reply. He has not long been ordained and we all wish him every success in his chosen career.

Friends of Richard Greenwell will be pleased to discover that he is back on the P.P. map. He can be located at 6 Devon Avenue, St. Clement, Jersey, C.I., and has officially rejoined us. Richard's original membership card bore the signature of the late Ben Shaw, no less, but was lost with other treasures while serving at Kirkuk with the Iraq Petroleum Company. In Palestine Richard was stationed at Jaffa, Lydda, Jerusalem and Gaza and we are sorry to learn that his wife, Elizabeth died some ten years ago. He recalls other 'Iraqi P.P.' types and names Killer Callan, Tom Newman, Roy Lamond, Mike Daly and his brother Pat Daly as well as Henry Dixon. He hopes to be at the cenotaph this year and for our part we hope to see him there. (See also Greetings Section—Ed).

The photograph on the front of the last issue evoked some comments, of which two are worthy of note. Firstly it appears to have been the very first squad to reach the depot after the declaration of war in 1939. The picture is dated about September of that year and of the 18 shown in the squad, Charles Greenstreet can name about 12 of them. He puts Arthur Wiltshire nearest the camera in the front rank and John Docherty nearby. Secondly a less

rosy comment comes from our Association President who hopes that it is a picture of the very first parade of these new recruits. Although the men appear to be standing 'easy', caps are askew and the uniforms look as though they require fitting and alteration in some cases. From the feet something is amiss with the dressing and the men are not sized according to height. This last point was also made by others and may be a well deserved censure. There the case for the prosecution rests. But we feel we should be kind and forgive them their sins for they not knoweth etc. In any case they are all such nice chaps. Kathleen Greenstreet by the way, a lady so very well known and loved in Southern & Western Branch area is very much better after her stroke(s) and both she, and husband Charles, wish to thank all those old comrades who sent messages of concern.

Others we have heard from are R. A. Weaver, 4/6 Old Abbey Gardens, Metchley Lane, Harborne, Birmingham, West Midlands B17 0JS—J. Hearne, 27 Ebbsfleet Walk, Northfleet, Nr. Gravesend Kent and Mrs. Bella Todman, 4 Julian House, Wyall Avenue, Dulwich, London SE21 8PG. All in their various ways seem to be in good fettle. While at the Isle of Wight 'Huffli', which is reported separately, the name of Major J. S. M. Edwardes, M.B.E., G.M., cropped up. He is of 1946 vintage in Palestine, we believe and then of Ghurka Rifles. (See Changes of Address—Ed). E. A. (John) and Pat Morgan, Garth House, Tennyson, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight PO41 0PR were also mentioned (See how we all gossip behind people's back). He has been in contact with Micky Hills and a curious story is now revealed. The last two issues of this journal have contained references in the 'Tracer Column' to Mrs. Nancy Crabtree and we wondered who it was who wanted to know her whereabouts. Now we can tell you. It is John and Pat Morgan so that the mystery is now cleared up. The tracer system really works because when Ian Vick sought the whereabouts of Leslie Toogood in the last issue, we can now tell you that Ken Blackbourn kindly contacted the enquirer with the sad news that Lt. Col. Toogood is almost certain to have died in the U.S.A. about five years ago.

This brings us to a recent reference to the late Roger Courtney. Roy (Mac) Read of Glebe Cottage, Seale, Farnham, Surrey has written to recall the time that he was in British Somaliland Protectorate in 1950. He accompanied Dudley Lloyd as well as the Head of the Locust Control in Africa at the time, to an acacia tree on a gentle slope overlooking the city of Hargeisa, and there in the bush they buried the remains of Roger Courtney who had expressed a wish as to his last resting place in his beloved Africa. It seemed to Ray at the time, appropriate that two P.P. should be present on parade at his requiem. This could easily have been the end of the story, except for the fact that another letter has arrived to carry a counter view in the Courtney mystery. This time from Jim deLacy, 49 Southlands Avenue, Orpington, Kent BR6 9NE.

Jim points out that while serving with the 8th (Irish) Bn. The Kings Regiment (Liverpool Irish), which was one of the beach groups for the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division at the time of the Normandy Landings, the battalion was awaiting embarkation, when he met a former P.P. then serving in the Royal Marines. In the course of conversation he told Jim that Roger Courtney was at Eastleigh (Hampshire) and was also in the Royal Marines. Poole was then, (and still is) the Headquarters of the Special Boat Squadron and at the time these people trained for the 'D' Day landings at Eastleigh. This enquiry started with the reported death of Roger Courtney of Special Boat Squadron etc., so that the mystery deepens. We thank Jim for his letter and wonder who the former P.P. was that spoke to him. Was it the late Jack Missen for instance? whose obituary notice appears elsewhere in this issue and was in the area at the time. Which is our Roger Courtney? Is he who wrote the book, Palestine Policeman, buried in Africa from whence he came? or in U.K. after serving in World War II, where he went after leaving us? We have a feeling we might hear more on this subject.

While The Royal Marines is in the forefront of our attention, A. F. (Alan) Bensted, a donor member of the association, of 35 Westwood Lane, Welling, Kent DA16 2HG and is someone who knew a lot of our chaps in East Africa in later years, kindly wrote to include a photostat copy of a page from The Globe and Laurel — The Royal Marine journal. The item deals with the late Sid Baldi whose obituary was published in issue No. 134. In it a former pal of Sid's and afterwards a fellow Royal Marine wrote a eulogy of his friend and was asking for anyone who remembered Sid, to drop him a line. This we did and if anyone else wishes to add to the information of Sid's life in the Palestine Police, perhaps they would write to this editor who will forward it on to the proper quarter.

E. (Ted) Clegg, P.O. Box 180, Girne, Mersin 10, Turkey is very much "Our man in Northern Cyprus" and sent a good dispatch (dated 27th April) which has brought us up to date. He has been in touch with an elderly lady named Mrs. Elaine Harris (since deceased) who ran the former Pantiles Hotel in Jerusalem with her husband from about 1934, but then managed the Y.M.C.A. until the 'Pull Out' in 1948, from which time Ted and Elaine Harris decided to settle in Cyprus. We had asked the other Ted (Clegg) in an earlier letter to keep an eye on Lady Spinney for us. After all she is the widow of someone to whom we all owe some of our deepest and most sensitive memories. Indeed someone who introduced us to the mysteries of credit trading before plastic cards were ever heard of, and not to be lightly ignored in the evening of her life without interest and concern from the rest of us. So Ted, who recalled once seeing her in a bar in Nicosia and talking to a member of the staff, decided to use some of the sleuthing techniques he learned in Palestine and returned to the scene — the

Locus Quo as it were. There he discovered an elderly couple working in the kitchen who stated that Lady Spinney has been living in London for some considerable time. The address now given being: 9 John Spencer Square, London, N.1. We have no news of her state of health. Ted Clegg has also been in touch with Mrs. Rowena Matheson Cullen and Mrs. Dorothea Turnbull, both of whom live reasonably near to him.

But Cyprus is not to be dismissed in this issue with just one paragraph. Our General Secretary, John Foster and his wife, Dorothy took a holiday there and wrote on 18th June a longish letter to describe it. This longish letter is actually described as a short note. First the couple visited Mrs. Hilda Williams on several occasions and they were also able to visit Jim's (Burglar's) grave within the garrison cemetery at Dhekelia (run very much on Commonwealth War Graves Commission lines). They also met a Mr. Alan Binney, one-time Nyasaland and Cayman Isles and who may be remembered by some readers. He is now D.P.O.C. at B. S. Area, Dhekelia Garrison (that means he is really the senior policeman there). He wishes to be remembered to Alan Kirkham. To finish off the story, John and Dorothy met someone on the aeroplane home who casually revealed he had been in the P.P. and then went on to Amman. He turned out to be a certain F. W. H. Paddy formerly at police headquarters, Jerusalem. It is to be hoped that we see his name among 'New Members' one day shortly.

Vic Cannings is a thoughtful chap and sent us a letter from Dermot J. Carty a former British Sergeant in Palestine, who now lives at Liscarton, Navan, Co. Meath, Irish Republic. Paddy Carty was pretty well known in Palestine and this editor particularly remembers him in C.I.D. Nablus. Afterwards he went on to serve in Hong Kong. He married in 1961 and retired in 1965 and collected a C.P.M. on the way. He turned to farming when back in Ireland but sold out in 1978 to retire for good. All this is the good news and doubless a blessing to Dermot, his wife and many children, but the bad news is that last year he had to have a leg amputated and although now recovered it must restrict his life somewhat. It was a nice letter and all Paddy's many friends and former comrades will wish him every happiness and comfort in the years ahead. In another letter Vic Cannings, who lives at 47 The Myrke, Slough, Berkshire by the way, points out that his effective retirement is from August this year and not March as stated in the last issue. Although 65 in April he has been asked to stay on because his successor was not available until September. Vic also confirms Norman Benn's memory that 'D' squad went through the depot in 1939 especially as Vic was a member of "that very elite bunch". They arrived in Jerusalem on 20th April after being escorted from Port Said by B/Sergeant Rowlands.

Ian Proud, 35 Chipstead Park, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 2SL evidently feels his original squad of 25 men in Jerusalem of 1934

is shrinking in terms of survivors. He had already submitted greetings to many (See Greetings Section—Ed) but then went on to name as many as he could of the original squad. Barker (killed in Palestine), Brookes, Buchanan (died in Palestine), Collinge (killed in Palestine), Crawford (later R.A.S.C., T.A.), Creed (killed RAF 1941), Duke, Evans (deceased), Gaubert (later Merchant Navy), Hankin-Turvin, Hutchens, Hymers, Johnston (cricketer), Page, Parker, Pennington (deceased), Shepherd (killed armoured car crash in Palestine), Scott (later RAF), Suckling (later Merchant Navy), Thompson (deceased), Tristram (drowned 1942 while in Gold Coast police), Webb, Wilcockson and one other who resigned as a recruit for medical reasons. We think that many squad survivors probably take a similar view and one might even get a morbid interest as to who will be next.

R. M. (Bob) Le Marechal of 37 Hall Lane, Hendon London NW4 4TJ is quite good at actually recalling important points of detail. When he read Onbashi's article on our ancient billets, he remembered 22 Sheinken Street, Tel Aviv which was the first billet for British Police in that town. At the time he shared the place with such as Jim Falconer, Timber Wood, Pat McGregor, Cory Moore, Jerry Taylor, Big 'X' (Sid Excell) and Taffy Reese. There were others beyond even Bob's powers of recall. We quote "In the beginning British Police patrolled independent of the Tel Aviv Station personnel. (Shlomo Schiffe—Station Officer, Goffer and Spector were the investigating officers), but later we amalgamated to our mutual advantage, even though on one occasion several of us wound up in Hadassah Hospital, following a riot we had rendered abortive. It was with regret that we vacated 22 Sheinken Street and its little 'forest' opposite where one could say good night to ones current girl friend in seclusion. Our colleagues at the station were a great lot and included Sergeant Bendor, Shmoel Shermeister who taught me to ride a motor cycle, Thorne, Kaltbaum, Ariel (station clerk) and last but not least the two mounted men, Diamond and Feldman. Yes they were halcyon days and we could not see what the future held in store for us. I transferred from Tel Aviv to C.I.D. H.Q's, not without regrets." Letters like that are both useful and pleasant and we thank Bob for this bit or nostalgic return.

S. A. G. (Sid) Williams, Bat Yam, I Cedar Way, Brixham, South Devon is someone we really ought to be writing to soon. May it be this year as we owe him replies to at least four letters. But another scribe whom we must mention is Alf Horton of 24 Harwood Street, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 1PD who actually wrote soon after last Christmas and for some reason his letter was not properly digested into the system and never even got into the last issue. Alf points out that he never did see or hear the police band when in Palestine. He himself is a competent and experienced military bandsman with eleven years playing in the regular army

followed by another 18 in the territorial army, attached to the band of the 5th Royal Leicestershire Regiment, where he was Staff Sergeant and Deputy Conductor. One feels therefore that for such a person to be denied the delight of Aubrey Silver's band might come as rather hard, to the point of being unjust. Another part of his letter deals with a continuous problem of always being mistaken in Palestine with a namesake who was actually in his squad at the depot. Alf was 2397 Horton and his tribal relative was 2398 'Lugs' Horton, so called because his ears protruded. Then they both went to Central Police Station Jaffa together. (Sometimes H.Q's showed no imagination) and they certainly were not related. Alf remembers such names as Bob Christie, then A.S.P. 'A' in Lydda District, Jack Birch and Busty Rainor. At a time when we were seeking information about Jim McCabe, W. (Mac) McKeown of 117 Coach Road East, Usworth, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE39 2EN wrote to say that Jim passed out of the same gunners squad at Woolwich when in the Royal Artillery. Whereas Mac served in a horse battery in Aldershot and in the Far East, Jim served somewhere else. But the two met again in the P.P. at Bethlehem many years later. Come to think of it a fine place for two old friends to meet after years of separation.

J. L. (David) Niven, 17 Cecil Avenue, Gillingham, Kent recently projected himself back to Malaysia, a former stamping ground of his after leaving Palestine and there called upon V. S. Clifton, (former B/Const. 651) who lives at 3 Nunn Crescent, Penang, West Malaysia and who was later kind enough to write to us of this and that. He is of 1930 vintage and his letter reveals that he was one of the original members of the old Striking Force in Nablus and elsewhere. He was a great pal of Sambo Peat and has many other happy memories of Palestine. His letter-cum-article entitled 'Corporal Come Here' is worthy of reproduction and will appear in the next issue. Don Howell, 11 Turnstone Road, Rest-Bay Porthcawl, Mid Glamorgan CF36 3RD has also written a 'Gone with the Wind' epistle that ought not to be simply filed away and extracts will also appear in the next issue. While on this question of forthcoming attractions. Trevor Kirby—2 Whitecliffe Road, Poole, Dorset BH14 8DU (not so very far from the editor's dwelling—Ed) also wrote with an attractive report about the small (very small) P.P. party that visited Oberramagau this summer. We had it in our minds to publish it in this issue, but because the late Tom Urwin was a leading member and organiser of the party has since died suddenly and is still very much in our minds, we have decided to produce the report in the next issue too. In the circumstances we feel sure this is the right decision.

This summer various names have come up in conversation at P.P. gatherings and among them is that of Jim Scrimgeour, a former B/Inspector in Palestine and Life Member of the association living in Perthshire at 92 Perth Road, Scone was among them, although not on our mailing list, old friends wish him well. Garth

Fowell, a former D.S.P. for a short time 1946 onwards and later Bahamas and Bermuda in that order is another whose name has come up. There is a rumour that he passed away this year in Hampshire but this is not confirmed and telephone books have failed to reveal a likely address. Mick Skelly, 26 Whitby Court, Parkhurst Road, Holloway, London N7 0SU has asked to be considered off the Sick List. He points out that he has had two heart attacks since his last letter and his legs will not allow him to attend the parade this year, moreover his wife is not well either. But he feels he is otherwise well. Mike's letters are always welcome and although we do not wish him to overdo anything, we really do hope to see him some day, some where. He is someone who seems totally unaltered since his days in Nablus. Maurice Callard, 14 Ferrol Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 4UG is responsible for the delightful poem that appeared on page 28 of the March issue (No. 134). He points out that a gremlin has caused two minor errors that ought to be corrected, the first being self evident when in line 4, Calvary is the correct wording and in line 9 the word 'years' ought to read 'tears'. We are happy to record the corrections here and from experience suggest the errors might not be of his doing, but ours (again).

Unless one has actually heard demonic laughter one will not readily recall the impression gained when our Vice Chairman of Association, Les Seaton telephoned about the picture on page 20 showing the younger Les and the younger Beryl in the very centre beneath the caption Wedding Bells. Here lies a story in that many years ago, probably about three, Les lent several photographs for possible newsletter interest and the one published was among them. In the gabble of conversation some notes were made (since missing) and from time to time in the issues following, consideration has been given to publication. What better moment than when Les, as Vice Chairman of this association and newly elected councillor in the City of Sheffield should have his wedding portrayed as a reminder to us all of what could happen to a young lad as he gets older. Here a terrible error occured. The wedding was in fact that of A. A. (Tom) Bartlett and Miss Irene Waller, who are shown on the left of the picture and not of Les and Beryl Season. Les was actually the Best Man. Without the necessary notes and after such a huge lapse of time and without any suspicion that the bride and groom had both done a smart two paces to their right, we put in what we believed to be the case. Naturally we regret the 'clanger' and are grateful that Les found it the subject of great amusement. It is worthy of note that Mr. and Mrs. Paddy McGill who then lived at Upper Bak'ia, Jerusalem supplied the place for the reception after a wedding that took place at St. George's Cathedral, where the photograph was actually taken. Ah! well. An innocent error dear readers, with a happy ending, but in all the mellee, we would like to know where our original notes went to. The laugh is on us, so enjoy it.

NABLUS SOCCER TEAM — 1932

Left to right. Back: B/Insp. Charlton (later A.S.P.), J. Adams (Dogs), J. Turner (B/Sgt.), Clarke, Bishop, A. P/Insp. (Very capable officer), Yaxley.
Front: Kirkcaldy, Welsh, McDougall (Force player), J. R. Ritchie
Sitting: Good (B/Cpl.), Davis (Transport)

Photograph from Jack Ritchie

'B' SQUAD — JANUARY 1943. MOUNT SCOPUS

Left to right. Back row: A. A. Parfitt, D. Oram, R. Bowden, H. Missing
2nd from back: G. Newman, J. Nixon, V. White, M. Rogers, C. Arnold, J. Neal.
3rd from back: J. Robb, H. Birkett, V. Newman, J. Emery, F. Corpe, W. Vass.
Front: A. Worthington, A. Johnston, B/Sgt. Makinley (law), J. Briggs (PT) B/Sgt. McDonald (Drill), R. Wilson, J. Heery.

Photograph from C. Arnold (deceased)

FORCE WATER POLO TEAM — 1938

Police v H.M.S. Repulse at Bat Galim, Haifa.
Bill Tarling is in there somewhere.

Photograph from Ronald Tarling

WHOSE DRINKING TEA?

Can anyone identify please?

Photograph from the late Titch Freeman collection

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THREE LIKELY LADS

Left to Right: B/Const. 378 Jack Munden, unidentified, B/Const. 4348 Bill McVee.
Photograph from Bill McVee

LONDON BRANCH

The branch meets on the first Saturday of every month at The Cardinal "Headquarters", Francis Street, London, S.W.1. at 8.00 p.m. The presence of the ladies is positively encouraged.

Chairman: L. Sexton,1a Wellington Court, Wellington Road, St. John's Wood, London NW8 9TA. Tel: 01-722 6977.

Vice-Chairman: G. Andrews, 195 Rivermead Court, Ranelagh Gardens, Fulham, London SW6 3SG. Tel: 01-731 6208.

Secretary: W. Anderson, 19 Priestly Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2LL. Tel: 01-648 8324.

Treasurer: T. Freeburn, 24 Dale View Avenue, Chingford, London E4 6PL. Tel: 01-524 2081.

Committee: A. Burn, R. Hamilton, T. Isted, E. Jackson, P. O'Boyle, T. Shand, R. Stanners and G. Stewart.

The May meeting at the Cardinal was very good, particularly when it is born in mind that many of our regular attenders were away and some were at the Buffet-Dance run by the new East Midlands Branch. Those who were present included the Branch Chairman, Len Sexton and his wife Mary; our Vice-Chairman, George Andrews and Edna; Branch Treasurer, Tom Freeburn (all three being members of Central Council as well); then there were branch committee members, Tom Isted, Alf Burn and Dai, Bob Stanners and Audrey. Added to these were Dave Bagshaw and Phyl, a former Branch Chairman whom we have not seen for some time and in from Suffolk where they now live. Bob Ellis, Harry Jervis and Marjorie, Ken Judd, Laurie MacDonald, Bill Shearman, Geoff Tymms and Phyl, while Mrs. Lola Messer and Mrs. Bella Todman were also in attendance. From South Eastern Counties came George Lancaster, John and Heather McVitty, Jim and George Meekings, Bert Parent and Ron Pemble. Completing this assembly was the Anderson tribe, consisting of Bill Senior (yours truly) and Eunice, Brian and Linda Woolhead (eldest daughter), Ron and Cheryl Rose (youngest daughter), Bill (Junior), (son) with his daughter Sally and finally Mrs. Sheila Manoueh who is my sister.

At the June gathering, which is sponsored by the South-Eastern Counties branch, it is as well that they did because Londoners were thin on the ground. (See South-Eastern Branch notes—Ed). But then the first Saturday in July we had a pretty massive turn out from Central Council, including the Association Chairman, Terry Shand, supported by Sidney Johnson, Micky Hills, George Andrews, George and Joyce Stewart. Most of the branch officers

were there too as well as Harry and Rosa Cassells, Bob Ellis and Geoff and Phyl Tymms. Again there was support from South-Eastern Counties with very much the same people, Jim and George Meekins, George Lancaster, Ron Pemble and Albert Parent, although Charlie Heathfield was there too and it was nice to greet him. Bill Young dropped in from Paisley and John Sudlow arrived from Atherton in Lancashire. Two ladies who are always welcome and are donor members anyway were also in evidence and refer to Lin Robertson and Marion Thompson. Lin arrived with her son, Douglas and his wife, Sandy, and her daughter Anne and her husband Umaid Jaff. Marion brought her Godson, Geoff Crook and his wife Gloria.

Branch members should note that the branch A.G.M. will take place at The Cardinal on Saturday, 3rd November, 1984 at 7.00 p.m. It is noted that the Derby Draw Ticket sales in the branch were down on last year, although I am glad to say we seem to have enjoyed our fair share of winners.

W.A.

HERTFORDSHIRE BRANCH

Chairman: J. Druce, 31 Parsonage Road, Welham Green, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL9 7NA. Tel: Hatfield 63875.

Secretary: F. A. Randall, 21 Elm Gardens, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL8 6RX. Tel: Welwyn Garden 21209.

Treasurer: W. I. Flynn, 590 Howlands, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 4ET. Tel: Welwyn Garden 31475.

As intimated in the last issue. This branch is really in difficulties. The deaths of E. C. (Eddie) Pitman has done nothing to rally us together. About 29 newsletters go out to Hertfordshire addresses and we can only conclude that a few subscribers are a bit indifferent to the branch existence. Moreover sickness is still striking us down. At time of going to press W. J. (Bill) Flynn our treasurer and W. G. (Wally) Stratton are still far from able to make a useful contribution while other members come from a generation that can not reasonably be expected to work on forever. So watch this space for some decisions on our future.

J.D.

R. A. WAGSTAFF

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SOUTH-EAST COUNTIES BRANCH

AWAY WEEK-END

BEACH HOTEL — LITTLEHAMPTON — WEST SUSSEX

8th to 9th September, 1984

8th September

DINNER/DANCE

7.00 p.m. Tickets £8.50 Dress: Lounge

9th September

LUNCHEON

1.00 p.m. Tickets £6.00

Tickets and Information from:

A. R. (Albert) HAWKRIDGE

Telephone: Littlehampton 23846

Hotel Bookings:

Telephone: Littlehampton 7277

SOUTH-EASTERN COUNTIES BRANCH

Chairman: W. H. (Bill) Church, 1 Wimbourne Avenue, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5AQ. Tel: Redhill 65488.

Vice-Chairman: Maurice H. Hill, 24 Fourth Avenue, Worthing, West Sussex BN14 9NY. Tel: Worthing 32665.

Secretary: C. A. B. (Cabby) Walter, 56 Village Way, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3NP. Tel: 01-658 1059.

Treasurer: Maurice B. Clarke, 15 Turners Mill Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1NW. Tel: Haywards Heath 454969.

The branch A.G.M. at Rye was very well attended with 39 members turning out and the hotel's Banqueting Suite was booked to capacity for the lunch when 83 actually sat down. The branch chairman was able to welcome three new members, namely R. Pemble, A. Dawson and D. Mansfield, the last named actually rejoining the association at the meeting. We are sorry to lose the services of Walter Gibbs from the committee as he has given valued service over many years. At the same time we are able to welcome Mike Brackston who took his place. Our Principal branch member, Brigadier J. M. Rymer Jones (who is also Association President no less) and his dear wife Mollie were also present, which gave us all a great deal of pleasure and Sidney Johnson, the Association Treasurer, also kindly came along and addressed the meeting and answered a number of questions.

As will be seen elsewhere, this branch not only holds the lead for the sale of Derby Sweepstake Draw tickets but our members purchased/sold more than ever before. This is a super effort and the committee thanks all concerned for such a fine response and we must not forget to thank Sidney Johnson who makes it all possible. Then on the first Saturday in June, we almost held a branch meeting at The Cardinal in London, which was our annual sponsored evening and as the date coincided with many members away visiting Israel, it was a good thing we were able to swell the numbers and it is noted that there was a particularly good turn out from Ashford, where Ron Pemble is busy sniffing out ex P.P. who are not yet in the fold, or who for some reason have lapsed from membership in that town. There was also a luncheon at Littlehampton and those who foregathered were:- Bob Ash, Albert Blash, Mike Brackstone, Mike Burrows, Walter Gibbs, Albert Hawkridge, Maurice Hill, David Niven, Len Sexton, Ron Turner, Cabby Walter, Jimmy Weekes as well as ladies and guests. Len Sexton is from Central Council and is also Chairman of London Branch so we are grateful to him for joining us. It is now intended to hold this function on the second Sunday of every third month

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so that the next one will take place on 8th December and anyone interested should approach Albert Hawkridge in advance. His telephone number is Littlehampton 7277.

It is hard to say when this issue will actually get to breakfast tables, so that by the time you read this the 'Away Week-End' at Littlehampton may be over. It is scheduled for 8th and 9th September, 1984 at the Beach Hotel. I am sorry that the price of the Dinner-Dance on the Saturday and the Luncheon on the Sunday were both misquoted in the last issue as £7.50 and £4.50 respectively when the prices should read £8.50 and £6.00 respectively. (See note below—Ed), a full report of the proceedings will appear in December. The late Captain Guy Lydekker, C.B.E., D.S.C., Rn. (Ret'd); lived in our branch area and his death comes as a great loss to us all. (See Obituary Notices—Ed).

C.A.B.W.

NOTE — After due enquiry the editor must apologise to readers concerned that the wrong prices were quoted in the last issue. The fault is entirely his and in no way reflects upon the branch secretary. The event is still value for money.

EDITOR

SOUTHERN AND WESTERN COUNTIES BRANCH

Chairman: J. Bamford, 'Elmfield', Bridge Town Hill, Totnes, South Devon TQ9 5BH. Tel: (0803) 864029.

Vice-Chairman: J. A. Jenson, 59 Bushfield Road, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8HW. Tel: (0460) 73773.

Secretary: Office Vacant. J. Bamford acting, address see above.

Acting Treasurer: J. Bamford. See address above.

Committee: G. W. Bourne, C. W. J. Greenstreet, E. De Val, C.P.M. W. Hall, B. P. Henwood, F. M. Kelly, Mrs. I. Mann, G. N. Simpson and C. A. Wade.

This branch has hardly got over the shattering blow of the death of our Branch Chairman, the late Reg Sandy, when we also have to come to terms with the death of Tom Urwin, our secretary as well. There is thus a great deal of gloom in this area of association affairs at the present time although both of them would have said that "Life must go on". Members should please note the alteration of branch officers which must keep us going until the next A.G.M. As branch Chairman and acting Secretary and Acting Treasurer it falls on me to make this report.

Our recent Annual General Meeting took place at the County Hotel, Taunton, Somerset on 20th May, 1984. We welcome two new members on to our committee, namely G. W. Bourne and W. Hall and have no doubt that we shall find them something to do from time to time. Of the two Hufli's in our branch area during the summer. The first was on Sunday, 8th July at the home of Bob and Barbara Johnson on the Isle of Wight. This was most successful apparently. As a matter of fact it was the 14th Hufli of its kind and is something that is now almost traditional. Of those who turned up, the following 'Islanders' were there:- Stewart and Enid Mackenzie, Sid and Joan Trattles, Ivor and Margaret Badley and Bill Howlett. Those who faced the sea voyage from the mainland were:- Les and Rona Acton, Paddy and Jenny Dukes, Maurice and Bobby Hill, Ernie De Val, Bill and Gladys Coles, Ted Horne (Your humble Editor), Norman and Kay Evans, Mrs. Nancy Head, Mrs. Katha Shand, Mike and Mary Burrows, Micky Hills, Albert and Doris Hawkridge, Hank and Mina Jenson, and Happy Simpson. Altogether 31 including the host and hostess who both seem very much improved in health by the way. It was glorious weather and splendid company and I think it goes without saying—a worthwhile visit in the best traditions of P.P. friendship so that we must thank Bob and Barbara for all the fine effort and generous hospitality. Of the other Hufli, which was advertised in the last issue of the newsletter, we have no report at the time of going to press but trust it went off well, with an improved attendance over last year. It was arranged for 15th July at the home of Cyril Smith in Plymton, Plymouth. Perhaps we shall hear in due course who attended and weather Jerusalem weather was laid on.

A few members of this branch attended the Oberammergau Passion Play which is something Tom Urwin had arranged through his friend and fellow old comrade Umberto Pernetta, who lives there. The journey was made and the play was seen but it was then that Tom fell ill from a heart attack and was taken to hospital at Feldkirch which is just inside Austria. He died a day or two later. His wife, Betty was with him. (See Obituary notices—Ed).

J.B.

Southern & Western Counties Branch

DINNER-DANCE

COURTLANDS HOTEL

Boscombe Spa Road, Bournemouth, Dorset

Saturday, 1st December, 1984
6.30 p.m.

Dress: Lounge Suit
Book dinner through Jim Bamford
address shown under branch news
Hotel Accommodation available
Book direct with hotel.
Tel: Bournemouth 33070/34437

SOUTH WALES BRANCH

Chairman: N. Swain, 66 Park Court Road, Bridgend, Mid Glamorganshire CF31 4BP. Tel: 0656 63942.

Secretary/Treasurer: D. Howell, 11 Turnstone Road, Rest-Bay, Porthcawl, Mid-Glamorgan CR36 3RD, Tel: Porthcawl 4992.

The silence is broken with a lengthy letter from me, some of which contains news of our members. As readers have already gleaned from time to time, very little actually happens in South Wales as a branch activity. But we join in many national and regional P.P. affairs and turn up as a clan. I met Alex Bowden Stuart in Cardiff recently and he is of the opinion that his health is not as good as it should be. Also Bill and Hilda Baston telephoned me and friends will be pleased to know they are keeping well. Then I met J. J. Whelan a few days ago (Letter dated 4th July—Ed) and I was amazed to here that a long time ago he joined the association and signed a Bankers Order but then did not receive a newsletter. I understood he has 'joined again' and is in better hopes of getting something for his money. Neither of us has any idea what happened previously. Les Chapman seems improved in condition and is what can only be described as 'reasonable in health'. Cliff Edwards has not changed and is, I suppose, enviously indestructible. Soon we shall all meet again at the Cenotaph and we hope to have quite a number of Welshmen in attendance.

D.H.

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SOUTH MIDLANDS BRANCH

Chairman: J. H. Foster, A.R.I.C.S., 101 Howberry Road, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 45D. Tel: 01-954 6904.

Secretary/Treasurer: Lew H. Boffin, 13 Highworth Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 7EG. Tel: Faringdon 20225.

A recent Saturday evening gathering at Faringdon was not well attended as only twelve members turned up, so it has been decided to hold a Sunday lunchtime 'do' at 13 Highworth Road on 5th August — as advertised on page 32 of the last issue of the newsletter. But it will all be over and done with by the time you all read this, so a report will be given in the next issue. Everyone in this branch sends their deepest sympathy to Betty Sandy and family upon the death of Reg Sandy who was almost as well known to this branch as he was in his own. Reg attended almost all our bigger gatherings since 1956 and will be sadly missed by everyone. This branch was represented at Reg's funeral by Gerry and Iris Cherrill and Ray Ford. Also we shall miss the late John Rushbridge only eight months after losing his wife, Joan. This time George

South Midlands Branch

DINNER-DANCE

BLUNSDON HOUSE HOTEL
Blunsdon, Nr. Swindon, Wiltshire

Saturday, 27th October, 1984

Essential to book early

Tickets from Lew Boffin

Telephone: Faringdon 20225

Gray and Pam and myself attended the funeral service (See Obituary Notices—Ed). Unfortunately I am moved to mention that Pam's mother passed away last Easter and will be sadly missed not only as a mother but as a staunch supporter of this branch. She attended every Dinner-Dance since 1956 and donated generously with raffle prizes and so forth. I am glad to report that the branch has moved up the sales table this year in the Derby Draw.

Don't forget the Dinner-Dance at Blunsdon House Hotel on Saturday, 27th October, 1984. Tickets will be £8 per head and Bed and Breakfast at the hotel is £12 per person. No V.A.T. or Service Charge, all rooms with private bathroom but rooms are only bookable through ME.

L.H.B.

MIDLANDS BRANCH

Chairman: Fred J. Gardiner, 14 Brampton Avenue, Hall Green, Birmingham, West Midlands B28 9LG. Tel: 021-744 2640.

Vice-Chairman: E. (Ted) Butler, 2 Morgan Road, Frazley Road, Tamworth, Staffordshire B78 3LA. Tel: (0827) 56382.

Secretary: Les G. Faulkes, 35 Home Farm Crescent, Whitnash, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 2QW. Tel: (0926) 32814.

Treasurer: Alf Burton, 8 Willow Street, Desford, Leicestershire LE9 9HB. Tel: (04557) 2494.

A quiet period after our annual 'shindig' in March. This quarter we are going to try something new for this branch. We intend to meet at members houses on a Sunday, instead of Saturday night in Birmingham once a month as hitherto. This scheme seems to work in New Zealand and elsewhere so it is hoped it will bring some more members into view and that some faces dimly remembered will be seen once again. Watch out for developments.

L.G.F.

EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH

Chairman: H. G. Elvin, High View, 80 Violet Road, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 3QO. Tel: (0602) 871289.

Vice-Chairman: T. G. McNeill, K.P.M., 67 North Road, West Bridgend, Nottinghamshire. Tel: (0602) 813736.

Secretary: H. G. Coaten, 6 Newton Avenue, Bingham, Nottinghamshire BG13 8FU. Tel: (0949) 37907.

Treasurer: A. Anderson, Tai O, Lanark Close, Wollaton Park, Nottingham. Tel: (0602) 781908.

Committee: J. Chettle, H. Hargreaves, P. Matthews and L. Rhodes.

Well it happened — the branch held its very first buffet-dance on Saturday, 5th May, 1984 at the Robin Hood Hotel, Newark, Nottinghamshire and it can truly be said from reports received that a good time was had by all. Principal guest of the evening was The Mayor of Bingham and his lady, Councillor and Mrs. P. Jacques. Other visitors to the branch area included: The Association Chairman, Terry Shand and his wife Judith. The Association General Secretary, J. H. (John) Foster and his wife Dorothy. The Association Treasurer, S. P. (Sidney) Johnson and Messrs. George Stewart and Micky Hill both of Central Council. But also coming up from the deep south was David Niven and his wife and daughter. We offer special thanks to these visitors who did so much to support us. We had a letter of apology for absence from the Association President, Brigadier J. M. Rymer Jones. It must here be pointed out that the same venue has been booked for next year and it will take place on Saturday, 4th May, 1985. Everyone is in time to book the date.

The branch held a meeting on 29th April which was again well attended by local members, wives and families. The next issue will have a report of a further meeting that took place on 22nd July, 1984.

H.G.C.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH

Chairman: H. J. Keeton, 3 Heather Close, Huntington, York, North Yorkshire YO3 9PB. Tel: York 769032.

Vice-Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer: R. Saxon, 46 St. Pauls Road, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 0EX. Tel: Huddersfield 28247.

Social Secretary: D. Bland, 28 Southwood Drive, Thorne, Nr. Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN8 5QS. Tel: Thorne 813242.

Committee: E. Garbutt and W. Moss.

Further to the information given in the last issue regarding the branch annual Dinner-Dance on 14th April, 1984, we were delighted to see so many members from far and wide. Our principal visitor was the Association President, Brigadier Rymer Jones, but others who came from outside the branch area included:- David and Marjorie Niven (Kent) — Laury and Mrs. McDonald (London) — Tom Barclay (Scotland) — Bill and Mrs. Young (Scotland) — Micky Hills (Central Council and London) — George and Jean Stewart (Central Council and London) — Ron and Audrey Turner (Kent) — Happy Simpson (Dorset). The toasts were interesting and after the Loyal Toast which was given by our branch chairman, that of Absent Friends came from the lips of Philip Moore who took the opportunity of reading from a list of good wishes from Messrs Goldthorp, Creed, Hartley, Ward, Seed and their ladies as well as a message from the Association Chairman T. J. (Terry) Shand and the General Secretary John Foster. Mrs. Atkinson is to be added to that list. Then the Vice Chairman of the Association, Les Seaton who is also a member of this branch gave the toast to the Association. Brigadier Rymer Jones happened to have a few notes with him and spoke on humorous as well as serious events in Palestine.

Our May meeting took place on 20th at The Green Dragon, Emley Moor when 35 turned out. We plan to send a coach to Perth for the Scottish Branch Dinner-Dance on 25th August. Our Christmas Luncheon will be held at Mansion House, Leeds on 9th December, please get information through Derrick Bland, address at top of these notes. There was also a branch meeting on 15th July at the Bay Horse, Tadcaster of which something will be said in the next issue. Meanwhile the branch has been in touch with Frank and Rita Bannister (Pickering), Jimmy and Constance Seed (Appleby), Harry and Kay Hartley (Liversedge), Les Salmon (Bridlington), Mick Barrett (Tyne and Wear), Bill Howeth (Tyne and Wear) and Ted Wayper (Bradford).

R.S.

MERSEYSIDE AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Sergeants Mess, Liverpool Scottish Regiment, Score Lane, Liverpool 6.

Chairman: A. Hawley, 119 Birley Street, Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside WA12 9UN. Tel: 092-52 4315.

Vice-Chairman: Peter Hornby, 2a Windsor Villas, Garstand Road, Barton, Preston, Lancashire PR3 5AA. Tel: 0772 864590.

Secretary: A. R. Gregson, 12 Regent Avenue, Liverpool L14 6UL. Tel: 051-489 2068.

Treasurer: J. M. Thomas, 7 Rimmer Avenue, Liverpool L16 2NE.

The 24th Annual Dinner-Dance of this branch took place at The Crest Hotel, Liverpool on 19th May, 1984 and was a resounding success. 112 sat down to dinner and then listened to the toasts. That to The Queen was given by the branch chairman Adrian (Slooge) Hawley, and Absent Friends by C. C. Devlin. The Toast to the Guests was performed by A. R. (Alf) Gregson and a fine response came from Walter Huntley from the Liverpool Echo who was our principal guest for the evening. The toast to the Association was given by the Association Chairman, T. J. (Terry) Shand who then led us in singing The Holy City. Dancing followed until 1.00 a.m. On the basis that a little publicity can do us no harm, an item appeared in the Liverpool Echo soon afterwards which gave us some publicity in the district and, who knows, may produce a recruit. The following morning a coach party was arranged for a tour of North Merseyside then back to The Crest Hotel. The Annual Derby Sweepstake Draw then took place and the details of this are published elsewhere in this issue.

We are pleased to welcome two new members into the branch, namely John Sudlow and Tony Morley and we hope to see more of them. In June the branch A.G.M. took place and all officers of the branch were re-elected. Next May will be the Silver Jubilee Dinner-Dance and a special committee has been formed to manage it all. I have been told to take a back seat for a change. But it is sure to be something special. We regret the loss of Herbert (Sandy) Powell and George Lucas who died recently within the branch catchment area but on the other hand we were pleased to welcome Archie and Sue Leadbetter at our April meeting. They are on holiday from Australia and are staying with Bill Mills.

A.R.G.

SCOTTISH BRANCH

Chairman: C. Kennedy, South Don, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9YE. Tel: Balmulle 242.

Secretary/Treasurer: J. M. Lindsay, 2 Lomond Bank, Glenfarg, Perthshire PH12 9PF. Tel: 05773 382.

A branch committee meeting took place at Perth on Sunday, 17th June, 1984 and those present included:- Messrs. Kennedy (Chairman), Lindsay (Secretary/Treasurer), Neil Kennedy, Emery, Steven, Souttar, Macfeat, Hook, Anderson, Barron, Livingstone, Lamond, Barclay, Kay, Coleman and Dave Thomson. Final arrangements were concluded for the branch Dinner-Dance that is taking place in August which will attract a full report in the next issue. Then on 8th July, 1984 we held a successful luncheon at the Isle of Skye Hotel, in Perth with Mrs. Margaret Gellatly, widow of the late Jim Gellatly as our guest of honour. Another person welcomed to this luncheon was Mrs. Madge Beveridge, widow of the late Jack Beveridge. Regrettably she proposes to remove to Leicestershire so as to be nearer her son, who works in London. The newest recruit to this branch is Neil Kennedy and we were able to welcome him and his wife. Mrs. Lily Anderson from Edinburgh had as her guests her sister and brother in law from Canada, while it should here be said that Mike and Myra Hook looked well after their 'walkabout' in Australia. Another Mrs. Anderson, this time Jean Anderson from Thurso is coming to the branch function in Perth, or so we hope. On a gloomy note we regret to the loss of Jim Smith of Hawick who died in May, his wife is Scottish and we hope she keeps in touch. (See Obituary Notices—Ed).

J.M.L.

AUSTRALIA (New South Wales Branch)

Chairman: W. R. (Bill) Wiggins, 1 Munoora Street, Seaforth, 2092.

Vice-Chairman: Harry Steel, 14 Sefton Road, Thornleigh, Sydney, 2120.

Secretary: F. L. Ormsby, Unit 23, 39 Woodstock Street, Bondi Junction, Sydney, 2022.

Treasurer: E. L. Jeffrey, 6/16 Waratah Street, Rushcutters Bay, 2011.

Paddy Collins and Bill Anderson have gone to live in Queensland for a few months (Letter dated 29th May—Ed) and winter up in a caravan park in a small village with the unlikely name of Tin Can Bay. Paddy Collins has sold his house, so that he is effectively of the map. The only way to write to him would be c/o Bill Anderson at 35 Richmond Road, Windsor, New South Wales 2756 and someone in Bill's family will forward letters on to them. We had our usual two monthly meeting at the British Ex-Services Club on 27th April, 1984 where there was a cosy gathering of Peter McCann, Bill Wiggins, Jim and Vera Hagarty, Mike Cleasby, Ted and Myra Jeffrey and myself. As this was ANZAC week we shared the club with ex Royal Marines and a large gathering of Ack Ack chaps. The club has been losing money for the last two years but they should have made a profit that night.

On Sunday, 20th May, 1984 — to mark the Stand Down of the force — we held a lunch in the garden of the Royal Motor Yacht Club in Rose Bay. We had time to enjoy the meal in the sunshine but had to duck for cover when the rain came at the coffee stage. Those present on that occasion were James and Mary Bidmead, Mike and Margaret Cleasby, Jim and Vera Hagarty, Ted and Myra Jeffery, Joe Kramer and his guest, Bob and Gwen Owen, Frances and Eric Meadows, Fred Sylvester, Bill and Winsome Wiggins, our branch chairman and myself and my wife, Iris. (Ormsby's the name). We have heard from Paddy Thompson who telephoned from Perth and had a long chat. He has survived his round the world journey.

F.L.O.

We cannot resist referring to a letter from J. R. (Jim) Hagarty of 27 James Street, Seven Hills, New South Wales 2147, who was inspired to write after returning from a delightful afternoon in the company of Messrs. Bidmead, Ormsby, Cleasby, Kramer, Wiggins, Sylvester, Eric Meaders and his mother Frances, and Jeffrey, accompanied by the appropriate ladies. The reason for the Get-Together at the Royal Motor Yacht Club was to mark the 36th anniversary of the Stand Down of the P.P. This of course is the same gathering as that already referred to by Frank Ormsby in his branch quarterly notes. But Jim's enthusiasm for the occasion, the location and the company is infectious and we gather that there may be further attempts to meet there. Jim also refers to John Murphy, former P.P. and Malaya police who is still a serving police officer in those parts who has informed Jim that after 20 years as secretary of the Police Rifle Club he is relinquishing the post. Altogether it was a most cheerful letter which did much to make a grey day at home a lot nicer.

The Association Treasurer, S. P. (Sidney) Johnson has heard from E. H. (Edgar) Braybrooks of Mulliondale, Cavan Road, via Yass, New South Wales 2582 and in his letter, Edgar states "I have built a new house for semi-retirement on 200 acres in hill country over the Murrimidgee river which is some 40 kilometres from Canberra, so please note the change of address. Friends will be pleased to know that Edgar is apparently very well.

EDITOR

PALESTINE POLICE—O.C.A.

BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

(Registered Charity No. 282492)

Objects: To relieve need, hardship and distress amongst members of the association, their widows and other dependents.

Chairman:
S. W. Hills, K.P.M., B.E.M.
Flat 57, Kemp House, Berwick Street, London W1V 3PN
Telephone 01-437 4483

Secretary:
S. P. Johnson
19 The Crest, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 5NJ
Telephone: Southend-on-Sea (0702) 521805

Details of members of the former Palestine Police Force, or their dependents, now in reduced circumstances and requiring assistance, should be sent in the first instance to the Branch Secretary or where an O.C.A. Branch does not exist, to the Benevolent Association Secretary. All cases will be dealt with in strict confidence.

Funds are essential for this very needy cause. Donations should be sent to either the Chairman or Secretary of the Benevolent Association, or to any member of the Central Council or Branch Secretary for onward transmission.

Members who wish to pay regular donations by way of Deed of Covenant should write to the Secretary of the Benevolent Association.

AUSTRALIA (The rest of it)

In three words. "Not a lot". But we can report having received a letter from A. E. (Arthur) Wiltshire, 23 Halgania Way, Duncraig, Western Australia 6023 and he seems to be in good health. As a matter of fact he and his wife are planning a trip to U.K. in 1985 and if that should happen will we see them at the cenotaph, or the Cardinal, or at some branch function? We can but wait and see.

Also H. G. H. Tomlinson kindly wrote to give us his news. He retired last year from his post with the Queensland Department of Aboriginal and Islander Advancement (which sounds like an out-door job, if ever there was one—Ed), this was after 16 years in the service and upon reaching the right old age of 60. He and his wife have built a small home on the green and pleasant Atherton Tablelands where the summer climate is particularly agreeable but during the wintertime they hope to do some caravan travelling and perhaps look up some old friends elsewhere in Australia. We wish them both every happiness in this new venture.

EDITOR

NEW ZEALAND BRANCH (Auckland)

Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer: Norman S. Stewart, 39 Walter Street, Takapuna, Auckland 9. Tel: 493 458.

The loss of our most senior member, Ken Pike has put a dampener on branch proceedings (See Obituary Notices—Ed), and then there is sickness to cope with too. But we plod along after all it is wintertime here. At time of writing this report (24th June) I am about to depart upon a fishing trip. New Zealand is just the country for brown trout and I know where to go for them. Ten days ago someone caught a brown trout weighing 34lbs. — "How is that for a good fishing story?". More next quarter.

N.S.S.

By way of compensation, Gordon Davidson of 83 Eatwell Avenue, Paraparaumu Beach, New Zealand was kind enough to write and his letter is also dated June, 1984. He lives some 500 miles from the Auckland people but reports upon a happy retirement in idyllic surroundings in which he and his wife are grandparents four times over. (2 sons born Amman and 1 daughter born NZ). Norman was formerly British Constable 2878, later 1/B/Sgt. by 1948, then to Arab Legion as Captain leading on to Lt/Col., before forcible retirement in 1956, whereupon he returned to his native country in New Zealand which to the rest of us sounds to be the proper thing to have done. May he and all his family continue to enjoy good health and an active and happy retirement.

EDITOR

THE HOLY LAND VISIT — 1984

On Sunday, 27th May, 1984 another Palestine Police party gathered at Heathrow and eventually departed for Amman where they booked into the Ambassador Hotel in time for dinner. This year the party was smaller than usual but included the following: Terry Shand, Officer i/c party, travel entrepreneur, Acting A.S.P., Association Chairman and Ballad Singer. These several caps he changed and changed again according to circumstances as the holiday progressed. Then there were Bert Ogden, Harry and Rosa Cassels, Colin Imray, Bod and May Turner, Malcolm Parry, Bill McVee, Geoff and Phylis Tymms, Archie and Sue Leadbetter, Andy and Margaret Anderson, Magnus Anderson, Sidney Hayward, Max Reynolds and Neville Nauton. Mrs. Haubner whose husband was killed in Palestine in 1947 was also in the party.

On the following day everyone drove to Mardaba and visited the Greek Church where the party was able to inspect the famous mosaic map of Jerusalem on the floor of the church and also to view Mount Nebo. Jerash followed where the Greek and Roman ruins could be seen and especially the amphitheatre built to seat 5000 people. The party then took lunch and afterwards at about 4.00 p.m. they attended the graduation ceremony of police students at the Mouta Police Academy at which His Majesty King Hussein was present. Everyone in the party was proud to be invited to the ceremony and afterwards they were presented to The King and shook hands with him. Tea followed and afterwards the party had an opportunity to be photographed with His Majesty in the centre of the group. Tuesday was a free day and members explored Amman individually. But on Wednesday the party crossed into Israeli occupied territory at Jericho and were able to visit Masada and Ein Gedi. At the bridge crossing, our old friend Haggai met the party and acted as our courier from that moment onwards. They managed a dip into the Dead Sea while at Ein Gedi where the party took lunch. Finally everyone arrived at our Hotel in time for dinner in Jerusalem.

The next day was a Thursday and another free day, and everyone took the opportunity to retrace old haunts. But on Friday the party attended The Scottish Memorial Church of St. Andrew to view the simple but beautiful memorial plaque which is dedicated to all who armed formes and to hear a few words from The Rev. Dr. Craig. This was followed by a pilgrimage, for such it really was, to Mount Zion cemetary to take part in a service in memory of those Palestine Police who died in Palestine, and many of whom are buried in that cemetery. The ashes of the late Jack (Titch) Freeman were then buried at Mount Zion which was the wish of his widow, Vikky. Jack died last year in England. Jim and Betty Pearson from Scotland took the opportunity to join the party on Mount Zion, also from the U.K. was Mrs. Kathe Shand and her

eldest daughter Ann who was born in Jerusalem. Ahmad Tamimi, a former Arab Inspector in the force and Solo Epstein, Abraham Fleisseg, Messrs. Hirschfield and Bauer all former Jewish members of the force also attended and their presence was much appreciated. Haggai, the courier, his wife Zivi and daughter Ruth added a nice touch. A police bugler was present and added dignity to the service which was conducted by The Reverend David Elliott, The Dean of St. George's Cathedral. Everyone in the party was touched and proud to be part of such an unusual comradeship. Afterwards we all went to Bethlehem. Although quoted a bit out of context, many members attended a birthday party in honour of Ann Shand given by her family's old friends, Ahmad and Fatmeh Tamimi at their house. In the afternoon Haggai took the party around the old city.

On Saturday (2nd June) we went to Tiberias to laze and swim and take lunch. This long and pleasant journey was augmented by a round about way back to our hotel. Sunday was another free day and many of us visited the large model of ancient Jerusalem which was a wonderful opportunity to imagine the city in ancient times. Then to St. George's Cathedral where they viewed the Palestine Police plaque. Colin Imray and Harry Cassels spent a couple of hours at the home of Sidney Webb, who lives at Talpioth and is more or less confined to his wheelchair. In the evening we received a visit from Judge Weiner, Solo Epstein, Bauer, Fleisseg and the Rev. David Craig and we had a pleasant and convivial time. On Monday (4th June) we struck out in another direction and visited Ceasarea via Ramleh where we visited the huge cemetery and paused to pay our respects to fallen P.P. comrades who are buried there. The graves are beautifully maintained. Then on to Haifa where this time we visited the Sharon cemetery where Nancy Haubner visited her husband's grave. After leaving Haifa we made a brief call at Kiryat Haim and arrived at Regba where former P.P., George Gilson lives with his wife Ruth. There they toured George's workshops and saw his animals. All enjoyed an excellent tea.

On the following day we made an early departure from Jerusalem and headed back to Jordan and sadly said goodby to Haggai and our driver. We had facilitated crossing at the bridge and then progressed to Aqaba by way of the boundary road and visited Kerak Castle on the way. After a long drive we eventually reached the Coral Beach Hotel in Aqaba. The following day was entirely free and most of us explored the sea in glass bottomed boats, or just rested. On the Thursday the whole party visited Petra and explored the ancient city and marvelled over it all. Then we visited Wadi Rum and found the scenery magnificent. At the desert police post we stopped but could not take coffee as it was Ramadan. Then back to Aqaba. On Friday, 7th June most of the party lazed on the beach but we had a visit from the Chief of Police and several

friends of police of P.P. days in Beersheba. These included Arafat Doeak, former Spinney's manager at Hebron, Suleiman Audah, Nasser abu Abail? 'Issa Kutaish ex sergeant Nablus and Hebron, Naif Ibrahim Mahfouz son of former Inspector Mahfouz. It was good to welcome them.

Saturday, 9th June proved unusual. The party attended the Marine Centre at mid morning. An attractive place where one can view the fish typical of the Gulf of Aqaba and the coral and plant life. In the afternoon on the beach, an aeroplane dropped eight parachutists almost at our feet and then the Jordanian 'Red Arrows' gave us a display as they were practising for the following day. Although we did not know it, The King had been in residence almost next door to us and noticed our flag flying at the masthead on the beach. He came close inshore in his launch to inspect it and then satisfied, waved and went away again. Next day, Sunday, we waited for the military display and all kinds of craft came inshore to pay their respects to the king who was on the next beach. The ships were all dressed overall. Then the 'red arrows', or whatever is the Jordanian equivalent gave their display. Then we did what we had to. Pack and get ready for home. Early next day, which was Monday some taxis took us to the local airport and we flew north to Amman, there to change planes for London. It was a memorable 16 days.

NOTE — This potted history of the 16 day 1984 tour is made up from excellent material supplied by Terry Shand who organised it and Mrs. Nancy Haubner who was the party's scribe and diarist. It is best ended by quoting from Nancy Haubner and using her own words. "To you dear Terry, Mabrouk for making 19 people very happy and we thank you sincerely for all the hard work you put into it for us".

EDITOR

(With thanks to Nancy Haubner)

WE MEET THE KING

P.P.O.C.A. Party to visit The Holy Land 1984 (Jerusalem and Jordan)
Photo from Amman Press

THE TRAIN ROBBERS

The Cairo to Haifa railway line lay just to the west of Qalqiliya but the small railway station which bore the name of the village was of little importance — most trains passing through almost as if it did not exist. On the rare occasion that it did stop on its way northwards the wood burning locomotive usually had some difficulty in hauling its carriages up the very long incline to Tulkarm. At night freight trains laboured even harder under the long string of wagons they hauled and one could lie in bed and hear the frantic efforts to overcome this particularly difficult part of the track. With the coming of Lease-Lend the goods traffic increased tremendously giving the underpowered locomotives an even harder job than ever before. The resultant slow laboured crawl was a heaven sent opportunity for some of the local bad hats who could not resist the temptation to do a bit of pinching from the open wagons. It was surprising what they managed to jettison before the engine picked up sufficient speed to make leaping off again dangerous. We only saw and recovered the items which were too big or heavy for easy transportation or which were considered to be of little or no use. In a way it must have been a bit like Lawrence of Arabia and his nomadic tribesmen looting the Turkish trains they derailed during the Great War but minus the excitement of blowing up the railway line and watching the engine ploughing off the twisted track into the sand.

We would frequently receive news that various items were scattered in the sand dunes through which the railway track ran and we would go out and pick up the rejected pieces of freight. This could range from a few forty gallon drums of high octane aviation fuel to bags of spikes or nuts and bolts plus on rare occasions large wooden boxes or crates all of which brought into the station and stored in the laundry room awaiting collection by their rightful owners. Many gathered dust for months and some things were never collected.

Eventually someone in authority came up with the solution to the problem and a few armed guards were provided to deter the robbers and the thefts dwindled to a trickle but still continued as and when conditions favoured the thieves. This also brought an end to our own efforts to catch the robbers in the act, for we had started to lay in ambush along the track but with little success for the area was fairly open and there was little cover and in addition with the armed guards now protecting the cargo it became very dangerous since the trigger happy defenders would open fire on anything they saw near the line and in the darkness friend and foe were indistinguishable and no one wanted to be a dead hero. Eventually even the most daring robbers must have thought that discretion was the better part of valour for the spasmodic raids soon dwindled to the occasional quick raid and then ceased altogether then they obviously came to the conclusion that it simply was not worth the candle.

BOB ROWBERRY

A VISIT TO PAKISTAN

As a member of the United Kingdom Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club, I used an invitation from a Pakistan business man to be his guest in Lahore, with a hope of contacting members of the Pakistan Federation of B. & P.W. The Pakistan High Commission in London kindly supplied addresses of members, but I regret there were no replies to my letters. I had also asked the editor of this journal for the names and addresses of former members of the Palestine Police who might be living in Pakistan, but unfortunately he had to reply that there were none as far as is known. It would have been nice to have made contact. In addition I sought the help of the editor of the Daily Muslim and he published my letter, but still no replies from the B. & P. ladies, but instead two replies from people who just happened to read the newspaper. Each offered hospitality of their homes to my husband and myself, but knew nothing of B. & P. W. Time for our departure was getting closer, so we had to accept their offers very hurridly indeed and set off not knowing a thing about the families we should be with.

Our flight with P.I.A., was enjoyable if a little 'dry' and we were thrilled to be invited to join the captain on the flight deck as the plane passed over Cyprus and Damascus. Our first glimpse of Islamabad was a joy — not only had we arrived in Pakistan after months of planning, but how green it looked. Our host family was waiting for us. Our first encounter with a Muslim family, and maybe for them their first English visitors. All was well from the very first moment of greeting, and we felt at home with them immediately. It was decided that we should all make the hazardous journey north along the Karakoram Highway to Karimabad, in the far north of Pakistan. We British had no idea of the dangers, splendours and rigours of the journey ahead. The Volkeswagen van was packed with water, petrol and a tent and to sum up the five day journey into one paragraph is impossible. Sufficient to say we were speechless at the beauty of Kakaposti and Nangar Parbat and we were intoxicated by the unpolluted air and bewildered by the vastness of the wilderness. We were never so hot or thirsty in all our lives as we drove from mountain torrent to the next in our quest for clean cold water. In the van among ourselves we spoke on every subject imaginable and the children and adults joined in, each educating another in some way. All too soon the journey and our stay with these new friends was over. We now wait with impatience for their return visit to our home in England.

Our next host family lived in Jhelum which is halfway between Islamabad and our eventual destination, which was Lahore. This time we travelled by air conditioned coach which we thought

would be very exciting. In fact it was very quiet with hardly any conversation at all. There was a great deal of traffic on the road. A young man met us from the bus and took us to the home of his uncle, who had answered my letter. Here we were enveloped in love and affection and felt even after the first hour that we had part of our family in Pakistan. For hours we sat talking and laughing with this large family and it was with very great sadness that we said goodbye. From our first landing in Islamabad it had taken us just about 24 hours to fall in love with both Pakistan and its people.

Our train journey to Lahore was like the coach travel and very quiet and uneventful. The trains were slower than their British counterparts and gave time for the passengers to admire the buffalos snoozing in pools of water, lovely flowers alongside the track and magnificent scenery. By comparison, the station at Lahore was an inferno and we were glad to be guided to the exit. A place called Model Town was our destination and we were glad to see our dear friend waiting for us with his car. Here we relaxed and let Pakistan take us over as never before. Sightseeing, family weddings, and shopping could take their own time. There was also time to suffer two attacks of dysentry and one of malaria while in this home from home. Medical help was on hand and a cure was effective but we were amused to notice that there is none of inhibiting privacy so prized in the west. One's illness is a community concern as all other patients lean forward to catch the doctors diagnosis and mutter in sympathy.

While in Lahore we were able to visit the little mud house where our friend's servant lives with husband and seven children. This family from the basis of a project adopted by Sittingbourne and Milton Club (Kent, B. & P.W. Club) to clothe and educate three children. During this time contact was made with the ladies of Lahore B. & P. Club and a lunch followed at the Hilton. We were treated like royalty and had visits to the zoo, Iqbail Park and a new health clinic.

Although it was five weeks since we landed in Pakistan it was now time to pack and leave — too soon it seemed. The flight home from Lahore was made exciting again by a further invitation to sit with the pilot as he followed the line of the Indus to Karachi. That grey river that we had seen high in the mountains bordering upon China and not so far from Russia and Afghanistan was still with us below. There followed an overnight transit hotel in which the pool was a welcome feature and our time was taken up with a whirlwind tour of Karachi and including walking on black sand and letting the Arabian Sea wash our feet. It was a fitting end to what for us had started as a holiday and ended as a love story. We had fallen in love with Pakistan.

JANET JARVIS

TOAST TO THE LADIES

A poem by Kathe Shand some time ago, attracted much attention from readers of this journal and stirred some to write or telephone with various congratulatory remarks and it did much to remind many an old comrade of those hundreds of ladies who support us now and indeed supported us in Palestine, who gave us strength and helped allieviate much of the stress that was suffered to keep going in very adverse conditions. In short we were reminded of the powers behind the thrones with each P.P. family being a virtual mini kingdom. Only time, and an immense distance in time at that, will be able to measure whether the ladies actually have a little more responsibility in this day and age, than they have ever had. Outwardly we certainly have signs enough that they have gained something, not with just a lady as sovereign upon our national throne, but a lady at No. 10 and for those who treat the history of London seriously, as of course they ought, a lady as Lord Mayor, something that would have brought on immediate state of apoplexy, some twenty years ago. But the point is clear enough and is worth bearing in mind in Palestine Police circles, that we have always owed a great debt to our ladies.

One first brings to mind those ladies in Palestine, married to our fellows as most of them were, and who brought a great civilising influence to bear upon the otherwise raucous and celibate groupings of the force. It all started very early of course, before the British Section of the force was even formed and at a time when the ladies formed what was generally known as the 'Jerusalem Set' in the early twenties. They did a tremendous amount to boost morale in all kinds of little ways. Behind the scenes matters such as giving prizes at sports events, visiting the sick in hospital, arranging charity functions, serving tea or acting as baby sitters for each other. Pretty mundane stuff in the light of later years, but essential for the smooth running of things at the time. By 1926 and onwards, the lowest ranks of the British Section had permission to marry 'the right sort of girl' (which Mr. Lucie Smith always pronounced as 'gal'). The story has been told before that the late 'Wiggy' Bennett is believed to be, indeed it is almost certain to be, the first British Constable to marry after the formation of the British Section on 1st April, 1926. He married a couple of weeks afterwards and has gone on record as some sort of first. In theory up to 10% of the British Section could be married men, living with their wives in Palestine but it was quite late in the history of the force before that figure was ever reached.

But by the thirties whole British families collected in certain police stations and they remained a close knit and friendly lot, with friendships that have endured to the present day. At places like Mount Scopus and Nazareth quite large colonies of married couples foregathered and shared station life together. Visits to each others

houses for a game of cards, tea, coffee or beer, sharing hobbies, pastimes, meals, childrens sicknesses and altogether providing a civilising outlet for us all. Beit Dajjan, Ramat Gan, Ramleh and many other coastal stations had similar settlements. Single men often envied the married 'pads' and it was a lucky chap who could drop round to the house of a married comrade and enjoy a little home from home comfort such as a drink, chat or meal to enliven and enrich his day. The children from these communities grew up together, went to school together and shared much of the difficulties that beset the force as a whole in both the Arab Troubles, so called, and the Jewish Troubles that followed. Quite a large number of Association Members of this association were born in Palestine, as were their sisters and hospitals from Safed to Gaza (I hesitate to say Dan to Beersheba) knew the first squawk of a British child when it came into the world. While to actually be born in Bethlehem has led to some raised eyebrows in later life in the U.K., when such details are asked by officialdom. After 1945 a wave of newly married brides arrived in Palestine and they found themselves in some pretty strange places. Such unlikely first homes as the Jenin Tegart, the Beit Lid Tegart or the Shafr 'Amr Tegart. There to discover the real world of Palestine but not as part of a large colony of British ladies but very much on their own. Instead they had to flounder with the problems of the market place without advice from another wife who knew the ropes. Just how did a lady fresh from England, cope with a rottle of this or a half kilo of that? And what exactly was it she was cooking for the first time in her life? These particular ladies suffered a great deal of loneliness to some extent although it must be said that they were soon transferred to somewhere more congenial when a baby was expected. Then came the trauma of Operation Polly — so ably recorded in one issue by Madge Lindsay. So many of our association ladies went through the Polly experience that they are drawn together like sisters at the very mention of the word.

To a great extent the cameradie of the married 'pads' has percolated through into the association and we are all the better for it. Whereas the Annual Reunion Dinner must for the time being remain a bit 'regimental' and 'stag', the branches have positively encouraged the active participation of the ladies in the running of their affairs. In fact most branches have come to rely absolutely upon the support of the ladies, either to be present themselves which is best, or at least to encourage the menfolk to attend. One could go as far as to say that some branches would not be where they are today without the ladies. It is noticed that north of Watford, if that is where the Rubicon really flows, the ladies and the branches are synonymous. The branch has come to mean the ladies too. In the south, the participation of the ladies in branch affairs is just as keenly anticipated, but there seems to be a veneer of extra menfolk still which would indicate that some sort of branch truncated activity could be supported without ladies, even if they were ever

HISTORY OF THE PALESTINE POLICE FORCE 1920-1948

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so dull and ever so boring. The thought of a dinner/dance without the ladies present does pose some interesting thoughts. This is only a thin and detectable nuance which in any case is fast disappearing. One branch I would remind readers actually has a lady on its committee and why not?

So we owe them a lot. Some might say we owe them everything. They are our sisters by association. Our sisters in health and happiness as well as in adversity. It is not customery to Toast the Ladies unless for some reason there is a Ladies Night as London Branch once held. It is little enough to ask. The phenomenum of the continued success of this association depends upon many things, but probably the biggest single identifiable factor is due to the encouragement, charm and attendance of our ladies. The association as a whole has become popular with them and they have confidence in us and are happy in our company. This old codger appreciates them at least and is anxious to drink a bumper toast to Our Ladies. God bless them all.

ONBASHI

ABSENT FRIENDS

We came from sundry backgrounds — Service men,
From civvy street or straight from school came others,
But soon we met on dusty Scopus when
That proud Force bonded all of us as brothers.

Some died advancing over rocky jebel,
Or in a wadi, ambushed by the foe,
Or in the dark suq, shot by unseen rebel,
Some by foreign fevers were laid low.

But we, the remnant of that Force, who fade,
Now drink to those good friends no longer here,
Till Last Trump sounds and on that Great Parade
Will march the men we know — the lads we were.

M.H.

OBITUARY NOTICES

On 9th May, 1984, I had the sad duty of attending the funeral of the late R. C. (Reg) Sandy, formerly a British Inspector in Palestine, although it seems I am one of the few people who actually

knew him in the force. Reg joined the Palestine Police on 29th September, 1938 and was originally British Constable 1484, by which it would appear he is best remembered by so many members of the force. After the Stand Down a great friendship was struck up between us and this has endured for the last 22 years in the association. At every function we attended together, I learned more about Reg and his life history in Palestine. Although he was injured before he came home, he still remained cheerful and then about eleven years ago his troubles really began with the dreaded cancer. He had many visits to hospital and many times he was thought to be so low that all his friends worried. Then he would literally rise from his bed and turn up at a branch function, or travel a distance to some other P.P. function including the cenotaph parade in London. It seemed he defied the physicians time and time again, until the word went round, which started as a joke, when many called him the 'Iron Man'. Whatever his discomfort, this he kept to himself, so that he could enjoy the company of his comrades. In the end it all got too much even for Reg, and he died peacefully at his home, 13 Milford Avenue, Wick, Bristol on 3rd May last.

The funeral service at Wick Parish Church was impressive and the association was represented by:- the Association Chairman, T. J. Shand, while S. W. Hills represented Central Council. In addition there were W. Sendell, H. Jensen, L. Chapman, W. Barber, T. Urwin, B. Henwood, N. Swain, C. Edwards, J. Shapland, R. Ford, A. L. Metcalf, H. Berryman, E. Whitfield, A. Gourly, C. Greenstreet, R. Knight, W. Hawkes, A. H. Smith, P. Duke, G. Cherrill, J. Bamford and M. Burrows. Mrs. Ivy Mann, Mrs. Whitfield and Mrs. Cherrill are also known to have been present. This list must surely be a testament to the measure and worth of Reg Sandy among his many friends and old comrades. T. J. (Terry) Shand led us in the singing of the association adopted anthem The Holy City in church and the hymn, Jerusalem was also sung. Yours truly was asked to give an address to my old friend.

Reg will be sadly missed, not just because of his loyalty to us all, his courage and his friendship but also because of the magnificent contribution he has made to this association through the years by selfless example of 'doing' and not just 'talking of doing'. He was branch chairman of the Southern & Western Counties Branch since 1981, and sick as he was, he supervised our affairs by sheer example. Altogether a most increadible man. His widow, Betty will be very much in our minds and hearts, herself not in the best of health in recent months but a good wife and nurse to Reg. as too will be their daughter, Petra and son Nick. To them we extend our very deepest sympathy. The family asked that donations in Reg's memory be made to the P.P.O.C.A. Benevolent Association, and it is reported that the record total of £183 plus has been donated to date. This surely speaks for itself.

HANK JENSEN

With a sad heart I report the death of my old friend R. L. J. (Bob) Turner who died suddenly while on holiday in Folkestone on 15th June, 1984. Bob served in Palestine from 1940 until the Stand Down in 1948 during which time he was attached to the Transport Section in Haifa and while with that unit he was one of the many members of the force who were engaged in the 1941 Syria Campaign with the 9th Army Expeditionary Force. Finally on his promotion to sergeant he was transferred to the C.I.D. in Jerusalem where his 'exploits' were many and varied but which he rarely talked about, being a very modest and unassuming fellow. On return to the U.K. he joined the Metropolitan Police in which he served for three years before leaving to drive his own taxi. He became a keen member of the association and attended many re-unions with his wife May, all over the country. Even after open heart surgery he continued to keep in close contact with other old comrades and was able to travel to Israel with the association party, only this year.

Bob was a much loved husband and father. We are happy to know he was able to meet his first grandchild on his return from holiday in Israel and he must have felt very proud. We will miss his humour, quiet kindness and generous heart. His funeral service took place at the City of London Crematorium, E.12 on Monday, 25th June which was particularly moving. T. J. (Terry) Shand sang The Holy City. The association was well represented by the following:- The Association Chairman T. J. (Terry) Shand, Sidney Johnson, Micky Hills, Tom Freeburn, Bill Anderson, George Stewart all from Central Council, together with:- Tom Barclay from Dundee, John Newsham and his wife Holly from Birmingham, Bill and Jessie Shenton from Pontefract, Bert Ogden from Derby, Cabby Walter, Richard Hall, Sid Burr, Tom Isted, Geoff Tymms, Bob Hamilton, Ted Jackson, Alf Burn, Con Mulvihill and Harry and Rosa Cassels from London and places down south. Many of those who attended had also been Bob's 'travel mates' on the recent Israeli trip. To his grieving family we extend our deepest sympathy and especially to his wife May, we extend all our love and esteem.

JOHN NEWSHAM

It is with very deep regret we announce the passing on 9th June, 1984 in his 72nd year of Col. Reginald Harcourt Stewart, Q.C.M., C.P.M. He had contracted leukaemia last year but bravely accepted this and was cheerful and uncomplaining to the end. He and his wife May had acquired a unit in a retirement village at the sea-side town of Port Macquarie in New South Wales which is fully equipped to deal with the elderly. He was a unique organizer of community projects in Port Macquarie and Rollands Plains where he lived up until this year. One of his special interests was in

the erection of the beautiful Presbyterian Church in Port Macquarie and a large congregation was present on 12th June, 1984 to hear the Rev. Robert Allan from Greenock give a well deserved eulogy on his life's achievements. An old friend and comrade, Bill Anderson, attended the funeral and cremation on behalf of the Association.

Reg joined the Palestine Police Force in 1932 rising to the rank of B/Sergeant. In 1937 he transferred as an Assistant Inspector to the Tanganyika Police Force. He rapid promotions led to the rank of Senior Assistant Commissioner and in 1965 he was appointed to Aden as Police Commissioner, a post held until his retirement in 1958.

During the years 1941-1946 he served in the O.E.T.A. in Eritrea, the U.K. and Germany. During this military service he qualified as a parachutist and attended the school of Military Intelligence. He was a political officer with the M.E.F. and a public safety officer in Cologne. He did not take retirement easily and in 1958/9 at the Glasgow School of Business Management he qualified as a personnel manager and later served as a Labour Officer in Wales with the Ministry of Supply. Subsequent to this he acted as Area Secretary Toc H in Scotland, and Victoria, Australia. He was a life member of this association.

Our heartfelt sympathies are extended to his widow May and sons Donald and Ian and their families. Our N.S.W. Branch will deeply miss his counsel and presence.

FRANK L. ORMSBY

I pen these few lines in fond memory of a pal — a camel-riding, wadi-bashing pal of yore with whom I shared many an adventure (and many a camel dung fire) in the halcyon days of yester year, those turbulent years towards the end of the last war when we both found ourselves in the Eritrea/Abyssinia borderlands, chasing bandits. If only those carefree days had gone on forever, or so we felt at the time. I refer of course to Reg Stewart — a Man for all seasons — 1912 to 1984.

My earliest recollection of Reg goes back to 1936 when he was a young and proud sergeant stationed at Nablus — a hot bed even in those days — while I was a sergeant on the northern frontier which was also very 'warm' at the time. We did not meet again until 1942. After our posting in Eritrea, came Kenya and the Mau Mau business. Needless to say, our Reg was once again in the thick of it, this time on loan from Tanganyika with a bunch of cheerful 'cut throats' under his command. But all good things (and times) must come to an end eventually, as too, must all good men. Reg Stewart, a man for all seasons in every sense of the word, was to be no exception and now sadly he has gone from us. Gone ahead to the happy hunting grounds where, without doubt, he will meet up

again with all his old pals who beat him to it, not the least among whom I hope will be some of his much loved four legged friends, the camels, the horses and the beasties with which he shared so much rapport in life.

Our loss is their gain. Until we meet again Reg, keep the camp fire aglow. R.I.P. Old pal.

JIM GANDER

We cannot go to press without recording the shocking news that Thomas Frederick Urwin died very suddenly while on holiday in Germany on 12th July, 1984. He was 73. Tom, who was a former 1/B/Sergeant 250 saw a good deal of service in the force which he joined in 1935 until the Stand Down and many a photograph of a Divisional or District sports side shows him staring back into the camera and these can be found in well thumbed albums wherever P.P. gather to chat, yarn and remember. I have been informed that after leaving Palestine Tom worked within the British Control Commission in Germany before settling down in the U.K. But it was in 1979 that the mantle of branch secretary was thrust upon him in the Southern & Western Counties area which is very widespread and where there is great difficulty in managing branch events because of distances. But just when the branch needed to be reviewed in vigour, because of the loss of so many of its founding members, Tom pulled it all together again and the branch has prospered.

It was a recent ambition to take a party of P.P. by special coach to view the Passion Play at Oberammergau, as sort of combined holiday, pilgrimage and social excuse to see one or two P.P. who live in Germany. But this was not to be. Instead Tom and Trevor Kirby were the only two P.P. to undertake the journey with their wives and see the play they did. Soon afterwards Tom fell ill from a heart attack and died in Feldkirsch hospital. His wife Betty was at his side and must have suffered a terrible shock coupled with the loneliness from being in a foreign land. Here the Kirby's must have been proven friends to her.

There was a cremation service at the City of London Crematorium, Barkingside on Friday, 20th July, 1984. Those present to represent the association were:- The Association Chairman, Terry Shand — Mick Hills, Sidney Johnson and George Stewart all from Central Council — Tom Isted and Alf Burn of London Branch Committee — Jim Bamford, Chairman of Southern & Western Counties Branch as well as Hank Jenson of the branch committee — Maurice Callard, Harry Berryman and Trevor and Freddie Kirby who are branch members. The Kirby's also having the sad roll of being with Tom at the time he died and giving support and comfort to his widow. The Holy City was sung at the proceedings.

The gap left in P.P. ranks by the loss of this active and able branch officer is simply enormous and made worse by the suddeness and finality of it all. If ever there was someone who did not really want to become branch secretary, it was Tom. If ever there was someone who answered the call for duty and made a reasounding success of the task, it was Tom. His death is deeply regretted but here is should be said that his widow, Betty remains among friends and we offer our deepest sympathy in the hour of distress. I could not attend the funeral, or any other funeral because it is the month in which this newsletter is prepared, but my thoughts were with those attending the service, which I am sure was conducted in just the way Tom would have wished.

EDWARD HORNE

I regret to have to report that John A. M. (Jammy in the P.P. but he preferred Jack) Missen, former British Sergeant 243, died of cancer on 30th May, 1984 in Alberta, Canada. He leaves a widow, Ida who is herself not in the best of health, and a delightful family including grandchildren. Jack joined the Palestine Police from the Prudential Insurance World and R.N.V.R., with me in September, 1935 and after Depot training we were both posted to Old City, Jerusalem. Most of his service was with the Mounted Branch, first with Tesscol 'B' in 1937/38 and then in 1940/41 with the M.P.S.F. in the days when it established itself on the side of a mountain near Jish and very close to the Syrian border without buildings, stables or messing facilities and just a few tents in seeming constant rain. This unit had at the time over 100 horses, all stallions, which were pegged out wherever one could find a spot between the rocks. In 1942, Jack was granted a compassionate discharge and returned to the U.K. to join the Royal Marine Commandos in time to take part in the 'D' Day landings from which time he fought in N.W. Europe. Much later still he migrated to Canada and went back into the insurance business, eventually to proudly become a Canadian citizen. He was a tough fellow, a keen and proficient boxer and oarsman in his youth and always a delightful and cheerful companion and a most loyal friend. He never lost his affection for the Palestine Police or for those with whom he had served.

The funeral was most moving with the old Canadian ensign and Jack's many medals on the casket. The Last Post was played by a bugler, the whole ceremony being handled by the Canadian Legion. His body was cremated and his ashes scattered on the acreage, an area of bush in the grounds of Jack's home. His widow, Ida, lives at 74 East Whitecroft, 52313 Road, 232 Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada T8B 1B7. Our friendship has lasted 49 years and it is hard to believe him gone.

MICHAEL HOOK

It seems incredible that I must announce the death of one of our best loved Honorary Members of this association; but we shall all lament the passing of Captain Guy Lydekker, C.B.E., D.S.C., R.N. (Ret'd), who for so many years attended our functions and could be seen at the top table of the Annual Reunion Dinner in such a happy and almost improbable blending of a sailor with policeman. Guy Lydekker enjoyed a distinguished career in the Royal Navy in the course of which he earned the D.S.C. an award for Distinguished Service before the enemy. When Italy came into the war he was Captain R.N. 'Levant' and as has been described in our official history took command of the Palestine Police Port and Marine Section with such useful effect. In his own words "I learned to admire and respect the professionalism and dedication of Palestine Policemen, wherever I came across them but particularly on the small vessels of my extended command". In time his breezy presence at the annual dinner came to be something many of us looked forward to, in spite of the fact that in more recent years he had to rely upon his daughter, Anne, to chauffeur him to and from the function.

There was a funeral service and cremation at Sanderstead All Saints Church on 29th June, 1984 and the association was represented by the following old comrades:- Brigadier J. M. Rymer Jones (Association President), S. W. (Micky) Hills, D. Cartwright and S. P. Johnson (all of Central Council). W. H. (Bill) Church (Chairman of S. E. Counties Branch), C. A. B. (Cabby) Walter (Branch Secretary). K. P. (George) Hadingham, W. E. E. (Taffy) Gallanders, F.C.R. (Budge) Hallett, and J. Coulson-Stephens (all of S. E. Counties Branch). There are plenty of others who can fill in suitable gaps in this notice, but the occasion cannot pass without suitable reference to an enormous feeling of loss to this association, and to feel that no more shall we look up and see the sea-faring, honest and pleasing features of Guy at our assembly is hard to contemplate. He was a gallant sailor who to some extent adopted us out of sheer admiration. We offer his daughter, Anne, our deep and sincere sympathy for the loss of such a father which must be a deep wound indeed.

EDWARD HORNE

Farewell 'Skipper'; you will be greatly missed by surviving members of the Palestine Police who worked with you in those great wartime years. Appointed Senior Naval Officer Levant Area. I used to call him Admiral of the Eastern Mediterranean. His only ships being the armed launches of our Port and Marine Division when on operational duties at sea. This navy arrangement was blessed by the Admiralty and the Palestine Government to meet wartime needs. Police launches flew the White Ensign while their crews, already holding police and army rank, became also R.N. Volunteer Reserve ratings.

Guy Lydekker, a stern disciplinarian and intensely proud of his police command, worked in closest possible friendship with successive Inspector Generals and was almost a father to his officers and men, at least one of whom was married from his home in Haifa. The gallant Captain was one of the first Honorary Members of our Old Comrades Association and, when he was no longer strong enough to spend a whole evening with us, was brought by his daughter, Anne, just to have a few words with his old friends. He died in his 96th year after a severe heart attack.

All Saints Church at Sanderstead was crowded with his relations and friends for the funeral service and it did one's heart good to find so many old comrades of the Palestine Police there to cheer 'Skipper' on his way. May our country breed many more like him.

JOHN MURRAY RYMER JONES

It is with very deep regret that my wife and I heard of the death at 95 of Captain Guy Lydekker (Skipper). We shall always remember him, both as a splendid type of naval officer and a kind friend. He and his late wife were the best and kindest hosts at our wedding in Haifa; and we are proud to have served under his command when he was Naval Officer in Charge of Palestine Ports, and later as Senior Naval Officer, Levant Area, during the war.

I am sure that all my old shipmates, who were Port and Marine-cum-Royal Navy for the duration of the war will remember Captain Lydekker with the same affection that we feel.

F. H. (Lofty) COLENUTT

Many members of the Palestine Police were characters of such dimension, that they came to stand head and shoulders above their contemporaries. One such was former British Constable Garth Handley, who in due time rose to Sergeant and then British Inspector. I now have to report most sadly that he died on 26th April, 1984. It is going to be difficult to describe his many and varied qualities and at the same time to do justice to his memory. We have Garth the policeman who was sufficiently good at his job to be selected for Jerusalem District C.I.D. He joined the force in 1934 and stayed to the end, with increased responsibilities year by year. We have Garth the music man, who could play the piano with consumate ease, or tickle the ivories as he might so describe his prowess. Indeed his musical taste was such that Jazz took on a new meaning and it is reported by Roger Brooks who while taking his morning bath in Germany, heard over the B.B.C. World Service, that Garth had passed away in Corfu, where he lived. As a tribute to our old comrade Peter Clayton, who presents Jazz Programme then

played Louis Armstrong's version of When the Saints go Marching In, which as Roger pointed out is an apt choice. This indicates the statue and status of Garth in the musical world. But then we must turn to Garth the artist. This incredibly talented man studied art in London and Paris as well as Jerusalem and in his police days was a recognised artist of great promise in Palestine with his own exhibitions in Jerusalem. After leaving Palestine he served in Sierra Leone and while there, persued his artistic talents which led to local exhibitions, thought at the time to be the first of their kind in West Africa. He has also exhibited in London. Garth was a friend of Jacob Steinhardt a great Hebrew mystical painter who was a pupil of Matisse. In London Garth rubbed shoulders with or at least his paintings did with Cezanne, Van Gogh, Picasso, Manet, Monet and others. No wonder the British Council scheduled him for various projects.

But in due time he settled in Corfu, Greece, his recent address being 5 Sophoeleos Dhusmani. Here from time to time former Palestine Policemen could track him down for an evening of comradeship and entertainment to augment their holiday programme. A place where the locals came to accept him, respect him and love him. A place where he played the piano to his hearts content, painted when he felt like it and talked about Jerusalem. He leaves a wife, Saskia, and a daughter and information has it, a step son. To them all we extend the condolences of those many old comrades who are not likely to forget Garth for as long as they shall live. A brave gentleman who had considerable talent and in many ways a prince among men. He was someone who could take our breath away and nothing will be quite the same now that he has left us.

TED HORNE

With regret I have to inform readers of the death of a popular member of the Hertfordshire Branch, former British Sergeant 2118, E. C. (Eddie) Pitman who collapsed and died on 26th April, 1984 at the age of 71. Eddie joined the Palestine Police on 31st December, 1938 after six years in the regular army, and he stayed with us until 1948. His broad grin and likeable character endeared him to his comrades and is best known for his period on the mounted section at such places as Jerusalem, Haifa, Nablus and Tulkarm. When times were rough, when it was too hot, or when everyone else was tired and particularly when an unpleasant duty had to be performed then that was the time when Eddie was at his best and he had many personal friends who appreciated his qualities. After returning to the United Kingdom he joined the Post Office Service and his retirement seemed to coincide with a deterioration of health, so from about 1979 onwards he got progressively worse. Yet as such P.P. functions that he was able to attend, it was never long before that

infectious grin would appear, and he was the Eddie known to so many of us in Palestine once more. He spent much time in recent years in a wheelchair but was always cheerful and never ceased to talk about his service in the force.

A funeral took place at Enfield Crematorium on 3rd May and the chief mourners were his widow, Edna, his son Garry, and daughter, Christine who were accompanied by their respective wife and husband. Five members of the association were present and they led the coffin into the chapel draped with the P.P. flag to the sound of the organ playing The Holy City at the request of Mrs. Pitman. A floral tribute was sent by Hertfordshire Branch. Those present being T. J. (Terry) Shand, Association Chairman;; S. W. (Micky) Hills and George Stewart both of Central Council; Jebel Druce, Chairman of Hertfordshire Branch and F. A. (Fred) Randall, Branch Secretary. One more of our close knit band has passed away and we in Hertfordshire Branch send our deepest sympathy to Edna, her two children and grand children.

JEBEL DRUCE

It was with very deep regret that a few days ago I heard from Edna Pitman that our very dear family friend Eddie Pitman had died at the end of April of a heart attack after a long illness. 'Slasher' Pitman late of the 11th Hussars (Cherry Pickers) (I believe) reported to me late in 1939 as a mounted constable in Hadera. It was not generally known that Eddie was a very good boxer, in fact he was the best of his weight in India where he did most of his soldiering hence his name 'Slasher'. At the time that I first remember him, the married quarter in which I lived was about 200 yards from the British Police Billet situated over a cafe and he used to walk across to our place where he installed himself quite often and became a general friend of the family and my daughter who would then be about 1½ years old would be taken on his shoulders to the stables to see the horses. I left Hadria in 1944 and for the rest of the mandate our paths did not cross but both Eddie and I served out the full time and he often came to see us at different places.

After Eddie returned to the U.K., I understand he joined the Postal Service and married Edna and leaves her two children who are also married so that she has two very new grandchildren. Eddie was very popular in Palestine and doubtless elsewhere and one can readily understand that his loss will be deeply felt. I offer my sincerest condolences to Edna and her family.

J. T. (JACK) DENLEY

While the newsletter people were scrambling to get their copy off to the press I took a chance and managed to get this depressing notice into print. I refer to the recent death of George Robert Pretoria Tatum, C.P.M., on Saturday, 7th July, 1984 in the Queen

Elizabeth Hospital at Kings Lynn. He was 84. George led an adventurous life and in the course of World War I, he served in the Merchant Navy and experienced the hazards of being torpedoed. After the war he joined the Royal Irish Constabulary Auxiliaries and this was followed in March 1922 to membership of the old British Gendermerie in which he was one of the first to sail for Palestine. In 1926 he crossed over to the newly formed British Section of the Palestine Police and served until 1948. He came home with the rank of British Inspector. It can truly be said that George Tatum was one of those whose name was known within the entire length of Palestine by several generations of P.P. Serving at such places as Hebron, Nablus and rural areas around Jerusalem. Where George was, so his boxer dog was not far away. He married his dear wife, Sybil in 1929 and both their children, Jean and Paul, were born in Palestine. The newsletter reported the celebration of their Golden Wedding on 30th March, 1979 and there was a fine picture of the couple in issue No. 120. One of his final postings in Palestine was that of Officer in charge of an area of Jewish Settlement Police.

When the Tatum's 'came home', George was employed by the Home Office on the staff of an Approved School, having settled in Suffolk. But his best known address in recent years has been 16 Rectory Close, North Wooton, Kings Lynn, Norfolk. He took an active part in the old East Anglia Branch of the association. His contribution over the years to the good name and integrity of the force is massive and was recognised when he was awarded the Colonial Police Medal vide London Gazette 8.6.1939, a well merited award for someone who had served Palestine and all its people for 17 years up to that moment and then added another nine years service to that.

There was a cremation service on Friday, 13th July at Kings Lynn and the association was represented by myself, Bill Coles and his wife and Sid Johnson, who represented Central Council. On behalf of all his many friends and comrades, I extend our deepest sympathy to Sybil for such a dreadful loss of a fine husband with whom she has shared 55 years, her son and daughter who have lost an able and loving father and her four grandchildren, as well as to the rest of us who are now deprived of a brave and courteous comrade.

RAS THOMPSON

It was only in the last issue of the newsletter, when on page 15 we were happy to report that J. E. (Jim) Smith of Croft Cottage, 56 Loan Harwick, Roxburgshire TD9 QAY was busy about his business, then with shock we were to learn that he had collapsed and died from a heart attack on 28th May, 1984 while attending

the Guildford Show in Surrey. Jim, who was formerly British Constable 1117 in Palestine and joined the force on 24th August, 1942 after service in the army, was formerly a very generous supporter of the Yorkshire Branch where he was best known within the association. I am indebted to his brother, Mr. Bert Smith for information about his sudden death and the funeral arrangements. Clearly the family were stunned by the suddeness of it all and by the fact that Jim was so far from home at the time. But he was later buried in Hawick on Saturday, 2nd June and about 100 men attended the funeral. It is not traditional for ladies to attend funerals in Scotland. Jim had married a Scottish lady and he made many friends in Hawick which is his wife's town after moving there from England. At the time of writing it is not known whether anyone from the association was able to attend, or even knew of the event in time.

But to his widow, Catherine, and all Jim's family we extend our deepest sympathy in their loss, while those of us who knew Jim will grieve for the departure of a valued friend and old comrade.

REG SAXON

It is with great sadness that we received news by telephone that Herbert (Sandy) Powell of The Post Office, Bryn Pydow, Nr. Llandudno Junction, Gwynedd, North Wales LL31 9QB died 17th May, 1984 from cancer. He was 70. 'Sandy' joined the Palestine Police on 11th August, 1938 with the rank and number British Constable 483 and served until nearly the end of mandate. His friend for many years was John Edwards who lives in Birmingham. He maintained his interest in the force and his friends and comrades by becoming a Life Member of the association. Although Llandudno is a bit remote from other parts of the country, it is on the perimeter of that area looked after by the Merseyside and District Branch and Herbert will be missed because of his steady, reliable and consistent loyalty to the force and then afterwards to the association. He always took the newsletter and looked forward to each and every issue. Old friends of his in Palestine and elsewhere must be saddened to lose yet another of our number. He leaves a widow and two sons to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

ALF GREGSON

Former British Constable Harold Wheeler, my brother in law, died just before last Christmas at the young age of 68. After the 'Stand Down', Harold returned to the U.K. for a short period during which he married his wife, Margaret, but then the couple emigrated to New Zealand and settled just outside Auckland. Prior to joining the force he served during the war years in the Grenadier Guards, so

that he had done a great deal for his country while a young man. Our very deepest sympathy goes out to his widow and four sons.

BILL McVEE

I am sorry to have to report the death of G. S. H. (George) Boyd on 22nd May, 1984. I remember his best as a 1/B/Sergeant in Palestine and worked with him for a time when I was in Nathanya. I realised then that he had many friends in Palestine and was particularly well known in Jerusalem, where I believe he was involved to some extent with the mysterious staffing at the depot. Later he was a British Inspector. In much more recent years I was to discover that George and his wife Freddie, had settled at Dozmary, 7 Caradon View, St. Cleer, by Liskard, Cornwall, although in spite of many attempts to get our act together, we were not destined to actually meet again. He was a Life Member of the association and perhaps the thing that I remember him for particularly, is however routine, or even dangerous, our assignments in the Nathanya area may have been, I was always much more cheerful when in his company. He could grace any situation with a pleasant disposition that was a tonic to such as myself. For that I shall always be grateful. Our deepest sympathy goes to his wife and three children in her bereavement. George was a fine example of true comradeship.

TED HORNE

I regret that I received a letter from Nairobi with the news that Alex C. Pearson has died. I do not know the details. I did not know Alex in Palestine but instead I met him for the first time around 1954 when he was on the staff of the Kenya Police College, while I was A.S.P. Isiolo Division and visited the college. Later we gravitated to Nairobi where we became firm friends so that eventually he was best man at my marriage to Iris, and he did a marvellous job. He was tall, smart, efficient and friendly and impressed Kenya's future President, Jomo Kenyatta who gave him the job of Presidential Escort Commander upon independence. Alex was later to attain the rank of Assistant Commissioner.

He retired in 1975 but chose to settle in Kenya and took up an appointment as Director General of the Automobile Association based at Nairobi. Bill Hopley represented the association at the funeral service. Our sympathy goes to Alex's family for their great loss.

FRANK ORMSBY

We are indebted to Mr. Edward Lucas son of George Alfred Lucas, for the sad news that his father died suddenly from a heart attack on 12th June, 1984. Although he had been diabetic for some ten years or so, his sudden death came as a great shock to the family. George Lucas who was at one time British Constable 844 in Palestine rose to become a British Inspector and remained in Palestine until affected by the Stand Down. He was only 19 when he joined the force in 1930 but afterwards went on to serve in Somalia followed by ten years in Kenya. The newsletter reported him to still in Kenya as late as 1966 but he and his wife then went to live in South Africa and finally settled in the U.K. in 1976. For some time they had lived at 5 Gardiners Row, Oakenholt, Flint, Clwd, North Wales. Many readers will recall the Lucas wedding when George and Betty married at the Scots Memorial Church of St. Andrew in Jerusalem in 1938 and his son Edward and daughter Anne were both Christened there. In more recent years the couple had enjoyed two of the P.P. visits to Israel when they were able to meet old friends. The departure of such a well respected member of this association is not a happy thought but we hope that coupled with our condolences to all members of his family (Anne is living in Jeddah with her husband at the moment) goes the hope that they remain among friends.

TED HORNE

I feel I must write to inform readers that former A/A.S.P. Alan Anthony (Tony) Munday died on 5th June, 1984 after a long fight against cancer. Tony who joined the force in January 1939 was best man at my wedding at St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem and when he came home on leave I reciprocated when he married my wife's sister. With his death he leaves a widow and four grown up children. He is mentioned in the last newsletter and as stated, in 1945 he was No. 2 to John Deevy at Mount Scopus and when I became British Inspector at the Depot after two years as 1/B/ Sergeant 'Law', Tony took over the job, as 1/B/Sergeant 'Law', and worked with 1/B/Sergeant (Winnie) Sharp 'Law' and 1/B/Sergeant 'Edgar' Wallace 'Drill', now lately deceased, so that in a brief space four of us at the Depot in 1945 are again linked up. Apart from the loss of another old comrade, Tony's death is a personal loss to members of my, and his family.

E. L. (PERCY) PAGE

I must pass on the tragic news that the Auckland, New Zealand branch has lost its oldest and senior member with the death on 22nd June, 1984 of R. K. (Ken) Pike who passed away in his sleep. He had been ill for some time and it was probably a relief for him to go. Ken went to Palestine in the very early days and

was about 1926 vintage and is best remembered when he served on the newly formed Port and Marine Branch in Haifa, where he made his mark as a British Inspector. He was awarded the King George VI Coronation Medal in 1937. In later years he was an active member of the association and although he lived some 150 miles from the actual Auckland branch area, he rarely missed a gathering. His home was at Bab el Wad, Wellington Street, Russell Bay of Islands. He was only 77 when he died. He was loved and respected when in Palestine and by all those old comrades who came to know him afterwards. This branch has been all the richer for his membership and is now the poorer for his loss, we shall miss him very much. May he rest in peace.

NORMAN (PADDY) STEWART

I have recently learned of the death in March, 1983 of Desmond J. Duffy who joined the force in 1945, I believe, and on Stand Down, transferred to Malaya. He was born in Dublin and was the son of Senator Luke Duffy one of the outstanding Irish Trade Union personalities. I met him occasionally at British Legion functions but we have not been in touch for the last couple of years. He lived at 34 Fortfield Road, Terenure, Dublin 6 and I do not know whether he had a family. We mourn the loss of an old comrade.

LUKE HANNON

FURTHER TO OBITUARY NOTICES ALREADY GIVEN

Further to the sad obituary notice in respect of the late Harry Conway, O.B.E., inserted by Johnny Baskett in the last issue, it reminded me that I had followed in his footsteps to and through Windward Islands, Grenada and St. Lucia. It is within my recollection that Harry joined the force 1933-34. I first met him in 1939 when he transferred from Jaffa to Ramle as a British Inspector. That was the year he was appointed A.S.P. in Grenada. In 1943-44 he was transferred to St. Lucia as a Superintendent. It was after the war that he accepted an appointment as Political Officer to one of the Sultans within the Aden Protectorate. I remember him particularly as ever courteous and considerate to everyone and he will always be remembered as one of natures gentlemen.

JOE FOLEY

I too am saddened to read of the death of my friend Mr. Harry Conway. I knew him very well when he served in the Aden Police Force, where I worked with him, where he first arrived with the rank of Chief Inspector and as assistant to the Commissioner

of Police. I left Aden in 1954 and a great deal of correspondence was exchanged between us from that time, until he fell ill in 1981. He was a very private, simple man and always no-fuss and no outside show yet remaining a most charming person. He seemed to reserve his friendship so that I had pleasure in being counted among his friends. As far as I know he never drank or smoked and it seemed never married. My great sympathy goes to his sister, Mrs. Callard who looked after him during his last years.

'ABDULLAH SALEEM ABU SHAIKHAH
(Qatar)
(Formerly Palestinian Inspector)

I was deeply shocked to learn of the untimely death of an old friend, Douglas F. Johnson of 1 Somner Close, Canterbury, Kent, as reported in the last issue of the newletter. He was only 57. Like Jimmy James, I too first met 'Dougie' Johnson in Haifa in early 1947 when we were both drivers of GMC Armoured Cars in that very elite corps — H.O.P. With 'Duggie's' car crew of B/Const 'Killer' Cox and B/Const Ernie Fosebrook, they were a popular and somewhat mad crew like most of us in H.O.P. Dougie came from Brixton and will always be remembered by me with deep gratitude for the time when I was wounded by terrorists and lay unconscious in hospital with a fractured skull and damaged right arm, he took it upon himself to write a letter to comfort my parents. I still have that letter and four years ago he called upon my aged parents which proved a big occasion in the life of my late mother who was blind but lived just long enough to be able thank him in person. I was abroad when he called but I did manage to visit him in Canterbury some two years ago. To his wife, Joy and sons Michael (following his father and now in the Kent police) and Kevin, we offer our deepest and sincere sympathy. Another loyal and gallant comrade has left our ranks.

GERALD (DODGER) GREEN

SHORT NOTICES OF DEATH

According to the Daily Telegraph, former British Constable 1646, William J. G. Kyle of 16 Overstead House, Ushermoor, Co. Durham died on 30th March, 1984. He was a member of the association and his passing is deeply regretted.

Frank Ashenden of 3 Rylstone Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 7HN died on 21st November, 1983. Frank served in the army from 1935 and joined the force on 3rd April, 1944 as British

Constable 2601. Many old comrades will remember him and on behalf of them all we extend our deepest sympathy to his widow, Peggy.

James Robert Barty, a former member of the force but not of this association died at Whitstable, Kent on 19th January, 1984. We offer condolences to his family.

Only last March we reported the death of Joan Rusbridge of Harwell, Oxfordshire and offered our deepest sympathy to John, her husband in his loss (See NL 134—Ed). Now we have to record that former British Constable 1355 John C. Rusbridge has also died on 19th June, 1984, he was only 61. He was a loyal supporter of South Midlands Branch and for many years was featured in 'Members in the Trade' at White Hart Inn, Harwell. His passing will leave another gap in our ranks and he will be missed by his many friends.

P. J. (Paddy) O'Byrne, a former member of the force who later served in Hong Kong died in March, 1984 in Dublin. He leaves a wife and son to whom we express our deepest sympathy.

We have a verbal report that former B/Const. 1650 Sam Boot was killed in a road accident in the Bolton area of Lancashire early in the year which is a dreadful end for a former P.P. There is at present no further information to assist enquiries.

We have heard from Bill Hopley (Kenya) that former British Sergeant 125 Alf Gould died this year and his funeral service took place in Kenya. Bill Hopley was able to attend. Alf is May 1938 vintage in Palestine and will be well remembered by those who served with him in the days of the mandate and those who met him later in East Africa. We all regret his death.

All friends and former comrades of B/Const 1267 A. E. Nicholls, will be sorry to discover that he died in May, 1984. In the course of his busy life, this former colleague was awarded the O.B.E., and the Q.P.M. for his work for the police service and well deserved too. We extend our deepest sympathy to family and friends.

We are also having to regret informing readers that Walter James (John) Freegard died on 15th July, 1984 after 8 years of illness and steadily decreasing health. There was a funeral service at Chelmsford on 23rd July and the association was represented by Sidney Johnson and Frank Mack. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow, Tilla who lives at 152 Waldegrave, Basildon, Essex. Perhaps in the next issue it might be possible to insert a more worthy notice.

2nd NOTICE

ANNUAL REUNION DINNER

SATURDAY, 6th OCTOBER, 1984

THE WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

CONFERENCE CENTRE

Victoria Street, S.W.1

(Entrance down slope to right of Cathedral)

6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m.

Minimum charge £10.00

and ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at

"The Cardinal", Francis Street, S.W.1

3.15 p.m. in the afternoon

(nearest underground: Victoria)

(Tickets for the dinner only from General Secretary BEFORE 29th September)

ANNUAL CENOTAPH PARADE

SUNDAY, 7th OCTOBER, 1984

SPECIAL EFFORT PLEASE ! ! !

Horse Guards Avenue, 10.00 a.m. for 10.30 a.m.

(nearest underground: Westminster, Embankment or Trafalgar Square)

Fall in 10.40 a.m. March: 10.55 a.m.

Service 11.00 a.m.

Followed by a gathering at the Cardinal (Headquarters)

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS UNIQUE AND MOVING OCCASION

NON-MARCHERS assemble King Charles St., at 10.30 a.m.

GREETINGS SECTION

WEEKES, E. H. (Jimmy)—9 Harewood Close, Tinsley Lane, Three Bridges, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 2AL, Sends greetings to:- Rita Bolton, Mary Mackenzie, Jack Binsley, Peter Lee, Frank and Nina Mouque (Hoping that Nina is now fully recovered) and all old comrades who set out with him from Victoria Station on 12th June, 1936 heading for Palestine.

YATES, R. (Bob)—42 Ruthin Close, Blackburn, Lancashire BB1 8EZ sends greetings to the following:- All ex members of Ajami and Jaffa H.Q's 1941-48. Arthur and Ruth New, Tom Hanlon, Cyril Trower (Abdul), George and Shirley Robinson, Alf Granger, Eric (Winnie) Sharp, Alan and Fleur Bolton, Dave Gould, Tom Reagan, Derry and Ann Atkinson, Derek Sharp, Bill Bailey, Bob Bathgate and son Alistair (Australia) and also greetings to P.P. everywhere and a quick return to health of all on the sick list (Nice thought—Ed).

GANDER, Jim—Gillock by Watten, Caithness sends greetings to Dick Hill (With the comment "Its nice to be reminded of happy days Dick"), Norman Stewart ("What price Nairobi these days?"), John Fforde ("Hope you manage to overcome your 'plagues various' so peckers up"), Derry and Anne Atkinson ("You must be the Derry and Ann of my Safed days".) and finally to Paddy and Eleanor Thompson ("Mention of your names in the recent NL brought back happy memories for me").

STEWART, Norman—39 Walter Street, Takapuna, Auckland 9, New Zealand sends greeting to: Sir Richard Catling, Jim Gander, Jimmy and Ann Brennan, Jimmy and Sheila Mulligan and Terry and Anne Burke. To members of Central Council he adds "Keep up the good work."

MORELAND, W. (Paddy)—Brenville, Clapworthy Mill, South Molton, North Devon sends regards and best wishes to Robert Pringle of Haifa days.

BAMFORD, Jim—Elmfield, Bridgetown Hill, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5BH sends greetings to:- Peter Lee (Durban). Everyone in S. & W. Counties wish you and Joan all the best wishes in your new home and look forward to your letter.

PENWRIGHT, D. W. (Bill)—3 Kendall Road, Kempston, Bedfordshire MK42 7DZ sends greeting to: Frank Pizer and Alan Kirkham and to wish them both a speedy return to good health. Also to Peter Lee, Sam Culverhouse, Finlay McLean, Paddy Duke, Charles Greenstreet and to all old comrades with whom he served and of course to Brigadier Rymer Jones.

TOMLINSON, H. G. H. and Mrs.—P.O. Box 338, Malanda, Queensland 4885, Australia send greetings to:- Frank and Moya Dunne, Paddy Mailey (Adelaide), Spud Murphy (Brisbane), Jock and June Urquhart (Scotland) and Alf Tyson and in fact all old comrades with whom he served in Palestine and Malaya.

GREENWELL, Richard—6 Devon Avenue, St. Clement, Jersey, C.I. sends greetings to:- George Hunt, Roy Lamond, Johnny Matheson, Tich Henfrey, Tom Newman and so many others.

SAGAR, John—Ground Floor Flat, 45 Place Road, Cowes, I.O.W. sends greetings to:- All his old friends and colleagues, too numerous to name but with special mention of Fred Gardiner, Reg Warwick, Pasha Lamond and Tiny Platts.

McVEE, W. G. (Bill)—54 Roman Road, Darwen, Lancashire BB3 3BN sends greeting to:- George Brophy, Bob Burns, Bill Ridgard and to all those he knew at Jenin, Kafr Vitkin, Safed, Metulla and Jerusalem.

STEPHENS, Mr. Owen—14 Henty Close, Walburton, Arundel, West Sussex — a former member of the Palestine Administration in Jerusalem sends greetings to Stacey Barham. Message of old standing from the pen of Duggie Fairfoul.

BLACKBURN, Mrs. Bridget—widow of a former ADC Nazareth (Palestine Administration) remembers George Hadingham from Jerusalem days and sends greetings. Also via the pen of Duggie Fairfoul.

PROUD, Ian—35 Chipstead Park, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 2SL sends greetings to:- H. A. J. Brookes, P. H. Duke, C.P.M., J. M. Hankin-Turvin, E. L. Page and Denys Wilcockson and remembering our casualties some fifty years on, hopefully other survivors of the 25 young men who sailed for Palestine on the SS Hobson's Bay on 29th August, 1934. (See also Home Notes —Ed).

RIDGARD, Bill—85 Bridle Road, Burton Joyce, Nottinghamshire NG14 5FC sends greetings to all who remember him.

WILMSHURST, Mrs. Peggy—P.O. Box 476, Deniliquin, New South Wales 2710 sends greetings to all who remember her in Palestine, Singapore and Nigeria and goes on to name Skipper and Edith Fox, Basil and Paddy Hickman, Malcolm and Bea Slay, Isabel Hoy, Colin Wade and Doc Gracie. (I think it should be pointed out that one or two of these have passed on and others have faded from the P.P. scene—Ed).

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Miss Katina Shand, daughter of the Association Chairman, is due on two counts. First she is the winner of the much acclaimed and hard to get Queen's Guide Award which is already a worthy enough achievement, particularly since the nature scope and even the name of this award is to be changed to something else so that she may be the last recipient to actually receive it. Secondly special congratulations are due because Katina is 14 and is probably the youngest or at least one of the youngest persons to receive it. From what we hear it was well deserved and we wish her every success and much satisfaction for such a well merited recognition.

We must now turn to the House of Bagshaw—David and Phyllis of Holmwood, Newmans Green, Acton, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0AB who through the agency of their eldest daughter, Valerie and her husband John, are now grandparents for the third time round. Lynda Louise was born 31st May, 1984 and came into the world at 7 lbs 8½ ozs. She is a sister to Sarah and another cousin to Mark who is the son of Valerie's younger sister, Leslie. Splendid news all round and one wonders whether this former B/M/Const and C.I.D. H.Q's chappie, ever thought he would be a grand daddy three times over when he whiled away the hours of duty officer. This editor is still awaiting the delivery of a champagne wine gum to celebrate.

Not to be outdone by Suffolk, Yorkshire can also claim a congratulatory message. This time to H. J. (Joe) and Ruby Keeton of 3 Heather Close, Huntington, York YO0 9PB, when a second daughter, Alice Elizabeth was born on 1st June, 1984 to Janice who is married to his younger son Ian. It is the third grandchild to Joe and Ruby and we all congratulate everyone concerned.

K. F. (Busty) and Sophie Woodward are celebrating the birth of Janine Polly which makes them grandparents—first time round—something to bring joy and happiness to them both and something in which we all share to some extent. The baby was delivered to his daughter Edna, who is a Mrs. Bates living in Melbourne, Australia and Busty is about to depart, as we go to press to inspect the newcomer for himself. May he have safe travel and may the child have that worldly wisdom we associate with Woodward household. Congratulations from us all.

RIDGARD, Bill and Maisie—35 Bridle Road, Burton Joyce, Nottinghamshire NG14 5FC have cause for congratulation because their eldest son, Andrew and his wife Lynn have produced the second grandson in the family. Little James Thomas who bounced onto the world stage at 7½ lbs. He will be a brother for Duncan and doubtless will keep his grandparents young and fit. Well done to all concerned.

SICK PARADE

WEEKES, E. H. (Jimmy)—9 Harewood Close, Tinsley Lane, Three Bridges, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 2AL reports that he is making good progress from his recent cataract operation and hopes soon to be able to use both his eyes in the normal fashion. This is good news for the rest of us too.

JENSON, Mrs. Mina—59 Bushfield Road, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8HW was anything but well when news arrived on 3rd May last and we can but hope after all this time that she is now very much better.

SHAW, Mrs. Pauline—15 Field View Court, Fryent Close, Fryent Way, Kingsbury, London, N.W.9 has had an operation on her leg (as at 3rd May last) and was on the sick list for six weeks or so. Not nice for a girl. We hope she is now much better.

BROTHERS, Frank—56 Castor Bay Road, Milford, Auckland, New Zealand had a mild stroke recently and we hope this popular old comrade is now very much better.

STEWART, Norman—39 Walter Street, Takapuna, Auckland 9, New Zealand is another 'Kiwi' placed on sick parade recently who suffered from a Duodenal Ulcer earlier this year. A letter dated 24th June last found him to be very much better and looking forward to a fishing trip. Branch secretaries are not really supposed to go sick but as he is now improved we will let this lapse pass.

MOUNTFORD, Harvey—53 Velsheda Road, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands B28 9LG. We learn through Les Faulkes that 'Monty' was taken ill and that an operation was required (Letter dated early July) but that he is now on his way to recovery although not quite up to standard yet. May this recovery continue and the required 'standard' be reached as soon as possible.

COOLBEAR, Harry—9 Woodfield House, Woodfield Way, New Southgate, London N11 2PJ is below par at time of going to press. This is not good for him. It seems that he suffered two very bad falls down some stairs. Harry is 82 and all his many old comrades wish him a full recovery.

CLARKE, Maurice—15 Turners Mill Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1NW was in hospital in July for a 'routine' operation. Although we know not for what, we all hope that he is now back in good form. There is a lot for him to do on S.E. Counties Branch committee. All his friends hope he is better.

TAYLOR, Ernest—Believed to be at 215 Newman Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire S91 LU has been in touch with Yorkshire Branch and reveals that in addition to arthritis he has a duodenal ulcer and has been losing weight. We hope this business is improved and he returns to better health.

GOLDTHORPE, Frank—56 Woodroyd, Honley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD7 2QW was admitted to hospital as long ago as last May for test and it is to be hoped that this ordeal leaves him all the better.

METCALF, Stan—The Croft, 11 Croft Drive, Honley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD7 2AS is another Huddersfield old comrade admitted to hospital, this time in April last following a heart attack. May he too be very much better and in something approaching his old form.

DOUTHWAITE, Mrs. Niki—1055 Bloor Street East, Apt. 1205, Mississauga, Ontario L4Y 2N5. We have to thank Tom Harbison for news that this lady was in hospital in May of this year but we are glad to hear as well, that she was making good recovery. May this continue to be so.

DRUCE, Mrs.—31 Parsonage Road, Welham Green, North Mymms Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL9 7NA wife of 'Jebel' Druce the Hertfordshire Branch Chairman is anything but well at time of going to press and we all wish her a speedy recovery.

ANDERSON, Mrs. Irene—35 Richmond Road, Windsor, New South Wales, 2756. We have information (dated May 1984) that Mrs. Irene Anderson, wife of Bill Anderson is confined to hospital in Wentworth Falls and all old friends hope that this lady is as comfortable as can be expected. Usually so very active, this must be a very difficult time for her. Simply dozens of old comrades who know her wish her well.

NEW MEMBERS

5081 SUDLOW, J., ex-B/Const. 1374—24 Ashfield Avenue, Atherton, Lancashire M29 0HD.

5082 MORLEY, A., ex-B/Const. 617—250 Westminster Road, Liverpool, Merseyside L44 L2.

5083 WHELAN, J. J., ex-B/Const. 101—5 Pen-y-Bryn, Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan, South Wales.

REJOINING MEMBERS

3952 WEAVER, R. A., ex-B/Const. 2804—4/6 Old Abbey Gardens, Metchley Lane, Harborne, Birmingham, West Midlands B17 0JS.

1978 GREENWELL, R., ex-B/Inspector—6 Devon Avenue, St. Clement, Jersey, Channel Isles.

1877 WESTALL, H. J., ex-B/Const. 985—6 Prier, Longfield, Grahame Park, London NW9 5SU.

453 ROE, D. M., ex-B/Const. 2921—Apartado 305, San Antonio, Ibiza, Spain.

1573 MANSFIELD, D. L., ex-B/Const. 3009—76 Sandhurst Lane, Ashford, Kent.

4518 MORRIS, B., ex-B/Const. 2505—3 Oakwood Road, Chorley, Lancashire PRY 2HW.

3931 MARSH, R. J., ex-l/B/Sergeant 3286—1 Came Park Cottage, Came, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 8NU.

4795 PAGE, E. L., ex-B/Inspector—12a Frank Cook Court, School Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire 0X5 2HW.

627 GOULD, T. F., ex-B/Const. 3133—3 Calderwood Court, Montpelier Parade, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1UA.

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A.142 SMITH, G. J., (son of R. S. Smith (deceased) ex-B/Const. 2132)—The Little House, 91 Pole Barn Lane, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex.

A.143 THOMPSON, Dr. M. J. A., (son of Dr. J. Thompson—Honorary Member)—85 Mill Lane, Wigginton, York, North Yorkshire YO3 8QA.

A.144 OXLEY, C. C., (son of I. C. Oxley, ex-B/Const. 4102) 30a Basedow Street, Torrens, ACT. Australia 2607.

TRACERS

Distant relatives are anxious to trace the whereabouts of Albert G. (or J.) Eyres who is believed to have settled in Kent on returning from Palestine. If any old comrade can produce information likely to be useful, would he please communicate with the editor.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

ALEXANDER, C. W., 15 Castlewood Close, Dial Hill, Clevedon, Avon BS21 7HR (from Redland).

ATKINSON, R., 99 Observatory View, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 2HQ (from No. 51).

BLACKBOURN, K. C., 52 Lockeridge Close, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7TU (from Whitecliffe Gardens).

BRAYBROOKS, E. H., M.B.E., Mulliondale Cavan Road, via Yass, New South Wales 2582, Australia (from Murrambateman).

BROOKS, R. T., M.B.E., H.Q.P. & S.S., HQ RAF Germany, BFPO 40 (Revised address).

COLLINS, P. V., c/o W. C. Anderson, 35 Richmond Road, Windsor, New South Wales 2756, Australia (from Blacktown NSW).

DODDS, P., P.O.B. 777, Mbabane, Swaziland (from Manzini).

EDWARDS, Major J. S. M., M.B.E., G.M., Garden Flat, 6 Lansdown Parade, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 2LH (from Hampshire).

FEATHERSTONE, C. P., Parkway House, Hambridge, Somerset (from Kent).

FIDDES, J. G., c/o 257 Clifton Road, Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 3QY (from Zimbabwe).

GRIEVE, J. H., C.P.M., I.S.O., Craigpark House, Craigpark Gardens, Galashiels, Selkirk TD1 3HZ (from London and before that Hong Kong).

HARRADINE, N. M., 35a Kings Gardens, West End Lane, London N.W.6. (from Hampshire).

HOLDEN, J., 73 Cambridge Drive, Greendale North, Harare, Zimbabwe (from P. & T. Bag 6002).

HUDSON, J., 12 Watham Way, Marsham, Norwich, Norfolk NR10 5PZ (from Le Neve Road).

LAMBERT, K. L., 34 Highlands Drive, Burgess Hill, West Sussex (from Marle Avenue).

LAWSON, A. H., Flat 44, Kirkriggs Court, Kirkriggs, Forfar (from 32 Fruithill).

McCLURE, D., 14 Montgomerie Terrace, Skelmorlie, Ayrshire (from Wiston).

MORRISON, L., 81 Twickenham Drive, Northwood, Mount Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe (from Natal R.S.A.).

NIVEN, J. L., 17 Cecil Avenue, Gillingham, Kent (from Lennox Wood).

ROONEY, D. G., Sierra Lakes Mobile Home Park, 5431 Lakes End Drive, Rocklin, California 95677, U.S.A. (from Sacramento).

RYMER JONES, Lt. Col. J. A., B.A., The Glebe House, Wendy, Nr. Royston, Hertfordshire (from Bristol).

SIFFLEET, W. B., 54 Avarn Road, Tooting, London SW17 9HA (from Bickersteth Road)

SHARPE, J. W. G., 10 Hanover Court, Blackthorn, Northampton NN3 4QL (from Potterspury).

SHEARMAN, R. J., 82 Radcliffe Gardens, London SW10 9HE (from Chelmsford).

TERNENT, A. T., C.P.M., 17 Kings Crescent, Shoreham Beach, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN4 5LE (from Rustington).

TOMLINSON, H. G. H., POB 338, Malanda, Queensland 4885, Australia (from Brisbane).

TRICKER, Major D. S., A.M.B.I.N., 2 The Carriage House, Lees Court, Sheldwich, Nr. Faversham, Kent ME13 0NQ (from Arabian Gulf).

WALSH, J. F. E., c/o Mrs. Spencer, The Cottage, Mellis, Nr. Eye, Suffolk (from Norwich).

WOODMAN, R., 10 Gavel Street, Maryport, Cumbria (from Derby)

MUNDEN, S., 67 Silk Mill Road, Oxhey, Hertfordshire WD1 4JW (from Harrow, Middlesex)

THE SOUKH

Every Member of the P.P.O.C.A. is expected to have in his possession, for wear on appropriate occasions, some distinctive article or articles of utility or sartorial adornment which will identify him as having served with the finest body of men the Colonial Service has ever known —the Palestine Police.

The following articles, AVAILABLE ONLY TO PAID-UP MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION, may be obtained at the prices stated. As we have no staff to deal with credit sales or C.O.D., please send remittance with order. Members are requested to include in the remittance sufficient to cover postage, by surface mail or air-mail, whichever mode of despatch they prefer. Net weight of each article is given as a guide when calculating postage.

THIS LIST CANCELS ALL LISTS PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED

Ties, all silk 3¾" x 52"	£5.00	¾ oz.
Ties, Terylene and Crimplene	£2.85	¾ oz.
	£2.75	½ oz.
Cravats, Mens, Terylene and Crimplene	£4.75	1½ oz.
Spur (Wishbone) Brooches	£3.85	
Ladies Brooches O.C.A. Motif—pin type	£3.00	
Blazer Badges, silver-wire	£5.25	½ oz.
Wall Plaques, hand-painted	£7.50	10 oz.
Car Badges (Radiator or Badge-bar fitting)	£7.25	10 oz.
Cufflinks, Silver and Enamel	£4.50	1 oz.
Lapel Badges, Silver and Enamel	£1.50	½ oz.
Tie Tacks with Clip	£3.15	
Car Key-Rings with O.C.A. Crest (Leather Holder)	£1.75	
Blazer Buttons, large	75p	½ oz.
Blazer Buttons, small	75p	¼ oz.
Windscreen Stickers, O.C.A. Crest	£0.30	
Ladies Blue Rayon Head Squares with 'P.P.' Motiff	£3.15	
Silver Tankards with Crest	£11.25	15 oz.
Wool Scarves, Association Colours	£7.50	
Tea Spoons, chrome	£2.75	
New:		
Desk Pennant with Wood Stand	£2.15	10 oz.
Desk Pennant with Plastic Stand	£1.85	10 oz.

Minimum postage 25p

N.B.—Orders for remittances for the above articles should be sent to the Soukh-Master, T. J. Shand, 47 Southfields, Hendon, London NW4 4LX. Cheques and Postal Orders to be made out to the P.P.O.C.A. (Telephone 01-203 1057).

STOP PRESS

A new item has been added to the Souk. Navy blue wool sweaters with a white Palestine Police Motif. Sizes 38, 42, 44 and 46 are available. Cost £13.50 plus £1.30 p.p. Everyone thinks they are very smart and of good quality. A good birthday, anniversary or surprise present. Send your order (remembering size required) and cheque to your Souk Master.

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(LH) Licensed Hours only — (EM) Evening Meal

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ALLAN, A. J., Humbers, Chideock, Bridport, Dorset DT6 6JW. Tel: (029 789) 310. (R), (BB).

BEARRYMAN, H. C., Lower Dean Farm Hotel, Trentishoe, Parracombe, N. Devon EX31 4PJ. Tel: Parracombe 215. (R) (BB)

BIRD, A. & L., Kumba Guest House, Chudleigh Road, East-the-Water, Bideford, North Devon EX39 4AR. (BB) (EM).

BRODERICK, P., Salisbury Arms Hotel, Hertford, Herts. (R). Telephone: 53091.

CHERRILL, G. W., Amberley Guest House, Chirsty's Lane, Shaftesbury, Dorset. Tel: 0747 3902. (BB) (EM)

CHINN, E., The Rising Sun, Worminghall Road, Ickford, Bucks. (LH).

DACK, G., Oaklands Hotel and Country Club, 89 Yarmouth Road, Thorpe, Norwich NOR 93T (2-star).

DAVIES, V. G., The King's Head, High Street, Haddenham, Aylesbury, Bucks. (LH).

EDWARDS, J. A., The Earl Haig, Little Heath Road, Bexleyheath, Kent. (LH).

HENWOOD, B. P., Arosa Guest House, 23 Pinecliffe Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth BH6 3PY. (BB) (EM).

KENNEDY, C., Clayton Leisure Park, Nr. Guardbridge, St. Andrews, Fife. (R) (in caravans)

LAMOND, R., Beit Tiberia, Knockard Road, Pitlochry PH16 5HJ. Tel: Pitlochry 2755. (BB).

MacDOUGALL, N. M. S., Foyer's Hotel, Loch Ness, Inverness-shire. (R).

McMAHON, P., Anchor Inn, Leek Wootton, Warwickshire. (LH)

MILLARD, W. F., The White Hart Inn and Restaurant, Bridestowe, Nr. Okehampton, Devon EX20 4NP. (LH). Tel: Bridestowe 318 and 303.

SUTHERILL, B., The Swan Hotel, St. Clears, Dyfed, S. Wales. (LH).

USHER, D. B., Grenadier Hotel, Trimdon Avenue, Acklam, Middlesbrough, Cleveland.

WILSON, T., The Dun Cow Inn, Old Elvet, Durham City. (LH).

WRIGHT, G. A., The Victoria Coach, Victoria Square, Truro, Cornwall TR1 2RS. (LH).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1984/85

August 25th	Scottish Branch DINNER/DANCE	Station Hotel Perth
September 8th	South-Eastern Counties Branch DINNER/DANCE	Beach Hotel Littlehampton
October 6th	Association A.G.M. (3.15 p.m.)	The Cardinal Westminster, S.W.1
October 6th	Association Reunion DINNER (6.30 p.m.)	Westminster Cathedral Conference Centre
October 7th	CENOTAPH PARADE AND SERVICE (10.30 a.m.)	Whitehall, S.W.1
October 27th	South Midlands Branch DINNER/DANCE	Blunsdon House Hotel Nr. Swindon
December 1st	Southern & Western Counties Branch DINNER/DANCE	Courtlands Hotel Bournemouth
March	Midlands Branch DINNER/DANCE	Kenilworth Moat Hotel Nr. Kenilworth
April 13th	Yorkshire Branch DINNER/DANCE	York Racecourse Restaurant
May 4th	East Midlands Branch DINNER/DANCE	Robin Hood Hotel Newark
May	Merseyside & District Branch DINNER/DANCE	Centre Hotel Liverpool

THE PALESTINE POLICE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

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Signature .....

Address .....Date .....

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TEAR ALONG DOTTED LINE